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Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-208
Monday
30 October 1989

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-208 *30 October 1989*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Ortega Holds San Jose News Conference 28 Oct *[Managua Radio]* 1
Announces Cease-Fire Suspension *[AFP]* 7
Says U.S. Must Change *[AFP]* 8
Leaves Summit Before Closing *[ACAN]* 8
Reaction to Ortega's Suspension of Cease-Fire 9
'Lack of Nerve' Noted *[ACAN]* 9
Announcement Causes Ill-Feelings *[Hamburg DPA]* 9
Presidents Criticize Decision *[Hamburg DPA]* 10
OAS Secretary Expresses Regrets *[AFP]* 10
Menem Says No Help To Peace *[AFP]* 10
Menem Offers To Mediate *[Hamburg DPA]* 11
Menem To Go to Managua *[Hamburg DPA]* 11
Cristiani on Suspension *[AFP]* 11
Contra Leader Speaks *[AFP]* 12
Chamorro Comments on Decision *[Hamburg DPA]* 12
Ortega To Announce Cease-Fire Suspension 28 Oct *[ACAN]* 13
Arias Says Panama Not on Summit Agenda *[San Jose Radio]* 13
Leaders Arrive for Hemispheric Summit 14
Colombia's Barco Arrives *[ACAN]* 14
Ortega, Menem, Perez Here *[AFP]* 14
Ortega Arrival Statement *[San Jose Radio]* 14
Arias Greets Bush *[San Jose Radio]* 14
URNG Sends Letter to Bush on Aid to Army *[ACAN]* 15
Arias Speech Opens Hemispheric Summit in 27 Oct *[San Jose Radio]* 15
OAS Secretary General Discusses Panama, Cuba *[ACAN]* 18
Panamanian Envoy Invited to Various Events *[ACAN]* 19
Honduran President Azcona Discusses Contras *[ACAN]* 19
Menem Calls for Consolidation of American Unity *[AFP]* 19
Bush, Ortega Hold 'Brief, Informal' Talk *[Hamburg DPA]* 20
Ortega Asks Help Toward Peace *[Managua Radio]* 20
More Bush, Ortega Meeting *[AFP]* 20
Ortega Wants In-Depth Talks *[Hamburg DPA]* 21
Costan Rican President Comments on Summit *[San Jose Radio]* 21
Bush Reportedly 'Imposed' 'Hot Issues' *[AFP]* 22
Argentine President Comments on Democratization *[ACAN]* 22
Ortega Proposes 2 New Topics at Summit *[San Jose Radio]* 23
Canadian Prime Minister Mulroney Addresses Group *[San Jose Radio]* 23
Panamanian Envoy Disturbed by Speeches *[San Jose Radio]* 25
Bush, Chamorro, Endara Attend Breakfast Together *[San Jose Radio]* 25
Colombia's Barco on Need for Coffee Agreement *[Bogota Radio]* 25
Endara, Arias Calderon, Chamorro Comment *[San Jose Radio]* 26
Endara, Chamorro on Meeting With Presidents *[AFP]* 26
Arias Closes Summit at Democracy Plaza *[San Jose Radio]* 27
Summit Without Consensus *[ACAN]* 27
Arias Comments on Bush Reaction to Summit *[ACAN]* 28
Hemispheric Leaders Depart Summit for Home 29
Bush, Barco, Azcona, Borja Leave 29
Perez, Sanguinetti Depart *[Hamburg DPA]* 29
Costa Ricans Burn Ortega Photo *[San Jose Radio]* 30

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Castro Calls San Jose Summit 'Caricature' *[Havana Radio]* 31
Havana Assesses 1st Day of Hemispheric Summit *[Havana Radio]* 31

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador

Cristiani Departs for Summit; Discusses Dialogue *[San Salvador TV]* 32
Rosa Chavez Reports Honduran Raid at Border *[AFP]* 32

Nicaragua

President Ortega Comments on Summit, Bush *[Managua Radio]* 32
Ortega, Government Support Halt of Cease-Fire 33
Suspension Announced *[Managua Radio]* 33
President Returns, Comments *[Hamburg DPA]* 33
To Make Cease-Fire Position Known *[Hamburg DPA]* 34
Borge on End of Truce *[ACAN]* 34
Chief of Police Comments *[Managua Radio]* 34
De Cuellar 'Deeply Concerned' *[AFP]* 35
Opposition Says Ortega 'Offering Terrorism' *[AFP]* 35
Menem Changes Mind, To Arrive in Managua Tonight *[AFP]* 35
'Not Authorized' To Mediate *[AFP]* 36
Discuss Contras, Cease-Fire *[ACAN]* 36
Leaves Managua After Meeting *[ACAN]* 36
Coverage of Coming National Elections 37
Minister Criticizes U.S. Aid *[Managua Radio]* 37
Poll Sees Chamorro Ahead *[San Jose Radio]* 37
Borge: Elections To Be Clean *[BARRICADA 18 Oct]* 37
RN Denies Sandinist Charges on Fighting *[EL HERALDO 25 Oct]* 38
Ministry Reports More Attacks *[EL NUEVO DIARIO 27 Oct]* 39
Top Contra Leader Accepts Amnesty in Rama *[BARRICADA 28 Oct]* 39
Contras Suffer 40 Casualties in Matagalpa *[Managua Radio]* 40
Incursion of 400 Contras Reported From Honduras *[Managua Radio]* 40
Defense Ministry Reports 5 Contras Killed *[Managua Radio]* 40
Daniel Ortega's Plane Involved in Accident *[Kuwait AL-WATAN 27 Oct]* 40
France Gives Financial Support for Elections *[LA PRENSA 17 Oct]* 41

Panama

Claims of U.S. 'Aggression' To Go Before OAS *[Panama City TV]* 41
U.S. Military Accused of 'Sabotage Attempt' *[Panama City TV]* 41
Coverage of Comments on Presidential Summit 41
Noriega Rejects Arias Speech *[ACAN]* 41
Rodriguez' Letter Published *[CRITICA 27 Oct]* 42
Foreign Minister Views Gathering *[MATUTINO 27 Oct]* 43
PRD Accuses Presidents *[Hamburg DPA]* 43
Coverage of Controversy on Endara Remarks 44
Authorities To Summon Leader *[ACAN]* 44
Leader on Minister's Charges *[ACAN]* 44
'Criminal Suit' Lodged *[LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL 29 Oct]* 45
Opposition Leader Ordered 'Taken' *[ACAN]* 46
Daniel Ortega, Endara Agree To Maintain Contact *[San Jose Radio]* 46
General Noriega Addresses Labor Organizations *[CRITICA 26 Oct]* 46
Ambassadors Summoned for Policy 'Redefining' *[ACAN]* 48
Instructed To Break Isolation *[ACAN]* 49
President Rodriguez' Speaks at PRD Meeting *[Panama City Radio]* 49

PRD Issues Statement of Support for Noriega *[CRITICA 30 Oct]* 50
PRD Resolution Urges Relations With Soviets *[LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL 29 Oct]* 51
Central Government Approves New Decree-Laws *[Panama City TV]* 51
Labor Party Issues Communique on Situation *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 22 Oct]* 52
More on Expulsion of UPI Correspondents *[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 27 Oct]* 53
Association Protests Ouster *[Hamburg DPA]* 54
Government Raids PDC Leader's Business *[AFP]* 54
Columnist Denounces Alleged CIA Collaborator *[LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL 29 Oct]* 54
Citizen Threatens To Kill ADOC Leaders *[CRITICA 30 Oct]* 55

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

President Menem Leaves for Costa Rica *[DYN]* 56
Menem on Ortega's 'Untimely' Decision *[DYN]* 56
Decree Rescinds Law Freezing British Assets *[TELAM]* 56
Cavallo: UK Exclusion Zone 'Sign of Distrust' *[CLARIN 27 Oct]* 56
Rapanelli Discusses Foreign Debt, Inflation *[TELAM]* 57
Caceres Reasserts Army's Institutional Role *[TELAM]* 57
Cavallo Acknowledges Rocket Vector Technology *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 58
Peruvian Defense Minister Ends Visit *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 58
Federal Court Sentences Montoneros Leader *[CLARIN 27 Oct]* 58

Brazil

President Sarney Returns From Costa Rica *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 59
Itamaraty Spokesman on Drug Effort With Colombia *[Brasilia Radio]* 59
Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Visits Sao Paulo *[Havana Radio]* 59
State Government Signs Trade Protocol With Cuba *[Brasilia Radio]* 59
Presidents of Lusophone Nations To Visit 1-2 Nov *[Brasilia Radio]* 59
Sarney Dismisses SUDAM President Kayath *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 25 Oct]* 60
Interest on Internal Debt Doubles *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 26 Oct]* 60
Details of Secret Army Graphite Reactor Disclosed *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 24 Oct]* 60
New Central Bank President, Official Named *[O GLOBO 25 Oct]* 60

Chile

Errazuriz Meets Hungarian Industry Minister *[Santiago Radio]* 61
Sends Greetings to Hungary *[Santiago Radio]* 61
Labbe on 'Manipulation' of Human Rights Issue *[Santiago Radio]* 61
Buchi Supporters Urge Aylwin To Reject Violence *[Santiago Radio]* 61
National Vanguard Party Gets New Vice President *[Santiago Radio]* 62
PCCh Protests Kidnapping of Teitelboim's Driver *[Santiago Radio]* 62
Pinochet Promotes Generals, Colonels *[Santiago Radio]* 62
New Metropolitan Army Commander Sworn In *[Santiago Radio]* 62
FPMR Bombs Army Recruiting Center in Santiago *[Santiago Radio]* 63
* Correction to Official Senate List Announcement 63

Colombia

Barco Comments on Coffee Pact, Summit *[AFP]* 63
Further on Summit Interaction *[Bogota Radio]* 63
M-19 Agrees to Demobilization, Disarmament *[AFP]* 64
To Sign Agreement 2 Nov *[Hamburg DPA]* 64
To Surrender Weapons 25 Dec *[Bogota TV]* 64
Government Increases Reward for Drug Lord Capture *[Madrid EFE]* 64
Government Orders Arrest of 6 Drug Traffickers *[Hamburg DPA]* 65
Army Reports Drug Kingpins' War 'Neutralized' *[EL TIEMPO 21 Oct]* 65
Medellin Cartel Leader Reportedly Extradited *[Bogota Radio]* 65
'Extraditables' Claim Responsibility for Bomb *[AFP]* 66

Rodriguez Gacha Reportedly Behind Galan's Murder *[Bogota Radio]* 66
Two TV Reporters Shot in Downtown Bogota *[Hamburg DPA]* 66
Four Policemen Die in Bus Explosion in Medellin *[AFP]* 66
Further on Attack *[Bogota Radio]* 67
Policemen Killed Outside Consulate in Medellin *[Hamburg DPA]* 67
UP Leader Santamaria Killed in Antioquia *[Bogota TV]* 67
8 Killed in Violence in Antioquia Department *[Bogota Radio]* 67
Bombs Explode in Bogota, Popayan; No Casualties *[AFP]* 67
Dynamite Attack Damages Telephone Exchange *[Bogota Radio]* 68

Ecuador

Borja Describes San Jose Summit as 'Brilliant' *[Hamburg DPA]* 68
Hopes for U.S. Policy Change *[Madrid EFE]* 68
Borja, Sarney Sign Cooperation Agreements *[AFP]* 68
Colombian Drug Trafficker's Nephew Arrested *[Hamburg DPA]* 69

Paraguay

Rodriguez Letter to Costa Rica's Arias *[ULTIMA HORA 27 Oct]* 69
Congressmen Visit I Army Corps, Watch Maneuvers *[HOY 28 Oct]* 70
Government Creates New Monetary Council *[ABC COLOR 28 Oct]* 71

Peru

Garcia Discusses Minister's Resignation, Economy *[Lima TV]* 71
Interior Minister Comments on 'Internal War' *[Madrid EFE]* 73
State of Emergency Extended in 8 Departments *[Madrid EFE]* 74
Shining Path Kills Judge, Mayoral Candidate *[Madrid EFE]* 74
Drug Trafficker Extradited From Colombia *[Madrid EFE]* 74
Lima To Receive 500 Buses in Deal With PRC *[Lima TV]* 75

Venezuela

Perez on Panama, Central American Borders *[Madrid EFE]* 75
Violent Student Disturbances Erupt in Merida *[AFP]* 76
Finance Minister Presents 1990 Budget *[EL NACIONAL 10 Oct]* 76

Ortega Holds San Jose News Conference 28 Oct

PA2810222989 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1421 GMT 28 Oct 89

[News conference by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega at the Sheraton Hotel in San Jose, Costa Rica; broadcast in progress—live]

[Text] ... I want to thank the Costa Rican people and President Oscar Arias for the opportunity to meet with his people and the political leaders of America on the occasion of commemorating the 100th anniversary of democracy in Costa Rica. We have held what might be called a multilateral dialogue among the presidents of America. I think this was a clear, sincere dialogue in which all of us presidents immediately got to the point and addressed the topics that concern the Latin American and Caribbean countries the most. We discussed the economy, foreign debt, and the traffic and consumption of drugs. We discussed the problems of coffee, the deterioration of the environment, and the problem that affects Central America—the peace process to which all of us Central American presidents are committed. I said very clearly that I expected the accord signed by the Central American presidents to be respected and that no obstacles should be raised in the way of these accords. I also gave an open presentation of Nicaragua's current situation, which could be described as sensitive.

I think this was a good chance to discuss the topic with the presidents of friendly countries. May I recall that the Contadora Group was expanded into the Group of 8 precisely as the result of the crisis that Central America has been sustaining for 10 years. Latin American governments have been concerned with the Central American crisis. All of these governments are fully convinced—and I pointed this out during yesterday's multilateral dialogue—that if the Central American crisis is not overcome, the entire region will be affected. This aggravates the crisis that the Latin American countries are facing because of their economic problems, particularly the foreign debt. This crisis has repercussions in the political and social fields.

The Nicaraguan Government's effort to comply with the accords signed by the five Central American governments is well known. The Nicaraguan Government has been doing its part, and it is up to the international verification organizations to determine whether or not the other Central American governments have complied. We are satisfied with the actions taken in our country regarding dialogue. On 4 August, I signed a political agreement with the 21 political parties legally registered in our country. These accords included a number of points to strengthen the peace process in our country, particularly the election process. The signatories of this accord also agreed that the contras held prisoner would be released only after the armed contras are disbanded. This is something that concerns all Nicaraguans. Regarding this, Nicaragua has taken several steps and has complied with the agreed-upon points. Nevertheless, the points harming and affecting Nicaragua are not being complied with.

We are working on the election process in earnest and in depth. We have even deployed our military forces in the territory to protect the election process. Only this explains why the call made by the Nicaraguan Government, the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], and the country's various forces to the people to register to vote in the February elections has been successful. We have approximately 1,700,000 Nicaraguan voters registered. We regard this as a historic milestone and another victory of the Nicaraguan revolution and government, which is determined to again hold free elections, just as they were held in 1984. These will be the second free elections in Nicaragua. May I repeat: To ensure that the people would register, we deployed the EPS [Sandinist People's Army], the police, and the Interior Ministry forces to make sure the people could travel to the registration centers, particularly in the war zones.

Observers have issued reports characterizing the Nicaraguan election process as positive. In spite of the agreements that call for releasing contra prisoners only after the contras have been demobilized, agreements that were reached with the political parties, we have continued releasing contra prisoners. This means we have not been inflexible in implementing the agreement.

All the political parties have had freedom of movement to carry out their activities. They not only have access to the media, they own some media. It is not common in Latin American countries that all the parties have real access to the media and own media sources.

We think that the election process has been making progress because the Nicaraguan Government and the Nicaraguan people have the political will to have clean elections, and this should serve to ratify once again the Nicaraguan people's position in favor of Nicaraguan independence and self-determination.

In the economic field, we have been implementing a very firm economic adjustment program since January of this year, and the Nicaraguan people are enduring hardships and making sacrifices to implement it. This is the price being paid in order to implement the economic program, and the program has had positive results. We have been able to stop hyperinflationary tendencies in our country and to encourage the production of exportable agricultural goods.

Why have I mentioned the economic and electoral issues? Because they are closely related, and because while we make efforts to defend the economy of all the Nicaraguans—regardless of social and economic levels—and all the sectors, and not just the economy of a single sector, and while we work to have a normal election process, we find that we are facing obstacles. What obstacles? Obstacles created by the U.S. Government.

We think that the current U.S. Administration inherited a very problematic situation in Central America, especially in Nicaragua. We believe that increasingly favorable situations are being created to solve the problems and to eventually have normal relations between the United States and Nicaragua. In the meantime, as a result of the policy inherited from the previous administration, Nicaragua continues to be the victim of illegal economic actions that violate international agreements which the United States has signed.

When an economic embargo is implemented against Nicaragua, it is not only Daniel Ortega and the Sandinist militants who are being affected. All the Nicaraguan people, the Nicaraguan producers, and Nicaraguan society are affected, regardless of their ideological positions.

All the Nicaraguan economic forces, regardless of their ideological or political positions, agree on their rejection of the embargo policy. This position is shared by those in favor of the revolution and by those who disagree with the revolution. We all agree that the embargo policy against Nicaragua hurts all the Nicaraguans and that because of this it is a reprehensible policy.

Important private sector groups in Nicaragua have sent letters to the U.S. Government demanding that the economic embargo against Nicaragua be lifted.

There is a contradictory situation. Nicaragua is going through a very difficult economic process, and it has been applying very strong economic measures to save the economy. It is also going through an election process that entails expenditures and financing, and therefore entails issuing paper money, something that goes against our anti-inflationary measures.

The U.S. embargo and the U.S. actions that prevent Nicaragua from gaining access to multilateral credit organizations go against the election process in our country. This is certain. We have very few resources with which to carry out this election process, but there is the political will to carry it out. We find ourselves forced into issuing inflationary money because the cooperation Nicaragua is receiving for the election process is very limited.

We realize that some countries are interested in cooperating. We acknowledge the fact that some countries in America—Canada and Venezuela—and some European countries—Spain and the FRG—are cooperating. However, their contribution to the Nicaraguan election process is not significant. It is very limited. We have to squeeze from our own blood whatever few resources we can to finance this elections process.

Therefore, when the U.S. Government maintains its embargo policy against Nicaragua, its policy of blocking access to outside financing, it is thus conspiring against the electoral process in our country, against the private sector, against the public sector—it is conspiring against the entire Nicaraguan economy. This is why I said that we cannot isolate the economic element from the electoral - political element.

To this we must add another element that we consider to be very important: In Tela, Honduras, on 7 August, the Central American presidents agreed to demobilize the counterrevolutionaries from Honduran territory. We allowed up to 5 December for this demobilization. However, here we come across another serious obstacle: The U.S. Government is bent on maintaining the counterrevolution inside Honduran territory for an indefinite period. The Honduran president has told me he does not agree with having the contras inside Honduras. He would have preferred that the contras leave Honduran territory. The Honduran president wants this agreement complied with within the agreed time frame. However, on the other hand, the U.S. Government has clearly said through their top leaders that they want the contras to remain in Honduras indefinitely to continue pressuring the Nicaraguan Government. This makes them continue financing the conterrevolution. The U.S. Congress approved this year a total of $66.7 million, including insurance and reinsurance [as heard], which they do for these types of operations. These funds that have been disbursed during these months and which have been the source of logistical supplies have enabled the conterrevolution to continue their criminal and terrorist activities against the Nicaraguan people, and also attempt to interfere with the electoral process in light of the sure victory of the FSLN at the upcoming elections. Because they know the people are going to vote for the FSLN, they do not want elections, or at the last moment they may want elections to be held under very trying conditions. This explains the increase in counterrevolutionary activities in our country and the infiltration of mercenaries in these last weeks and months with orders to launch indiscriminate attacks against the peasant population.

We must take into account that on 24 March 1988, the Nicaraguan Government unilaterally decided to decree from that moment on, month by month, a cessation of offensive operations, a truce, or a cease-fire. We have been ratifying this each month since 24 March 1988. Counterrevolutionary activity has not stopped despite the cease-fire. They have continued their attacks against the civilian population, our troops, and our economy. Thus, from 24 March 1988 to 24 October 1989 we have had a total of 736 dead, 1,153 wounded, and 1,481 kidnapped and missing. This makes a total of 3,370 victims.

As the electoral process moves ahead, the counterrevolution has launched attacks against the population who try to register. The Sandinist People's Army [EPS] has guaranteed the neutralization of these contra attacks aimed at preventing people in the war zones from registering. These were the positive balances I spoke about of 1.7 million people who registered. For example, on 21 October, a Saturday—Sunday was 22 October, the last day to register—the couterrevolution launched an attack, ambushing a group of peasants that were going from their homes to register on Sunday. As a result of

this attack, this terrorist act, 19 peasants were killed and 6 were injured. The following day, two FSLN members were murdered. FSLN municipal candidates have also been murdered by the counterrevolution.

We are thus faced with a wave of attacks that are not only a risk to Nicaraguan security, Nicaraguan lives, property, economy, and the right to vote, but we are also faced with increased counterrevolutionary activity that endangers the important role and work of the observers. These are observers that the Nicaraguan Government has requested. These are the UN and OAS observers who are all over the country. On 26 October, these observers publicly expressed through our country's media their concern about the contra's unmerciful increase in activity and their concern about their own security as they are required to move around in areas where contra activity has increased. Under these conditions, in order first of all to guarantee the lives of Nicaraguans, to guarantee the smooth running of the electoral process, on 22 October I met with the Army commanders and the Interior Minister. This information was publicly known in our country. It is nothing new that we might be disclosing here in Costa Rica, taking advantage of this summit. These are events known in our country through news published in our country's media. There we analyzed the situation and we later explained that we had decided not to renew the truce. We were forced, because of this increase in counterrevolutinary activity, not to renew the truce.

What for? So that the Army may guarantee the Nicaraguan people's life and possessions; so that it may better guarantee the electoral process in our country; and so that the contras' actions may not go unpunished as they have since we decreed the unilateral cease-fire. You must bear in mind that the issue about the cease-fire has been a unilateral decision by the Nicaraguan Government; it is not an agreement between the contras and the Nicaraguan Government. We proposed an agreement on this but the contras rejected it so we decided to decree the cease-fire month by month—against the contras' will.

We have been decreeing a cease-fire month after month and we have maintained the cease-fire throughout this time. Likewise, the cease-fire is not a commitment within the framework of the Central American presidents' agreement. It is not a commitment we accepted at Esquipulas, San Jose, San Salvador or at the Tela meeting. This has been simply a unilateral decision of the Nicaraguan Government, and it has not been respected by the contras.

Given the grave and critical situation, and bearing in mind its consequences in the economic and military sectors—because the two are combined....[changes thought] the effects are felt by everyone throughout the nation, both in the economic and military sectors. The contras' terrorist activities affect all the sectors in the country. Logically, our obligation is to take the necessary measures to protect the Nicaraguan people's lives and possessions, and guarantee the progress of the electoral process in Nicaragua. Consequently, we think it is inconvenient to extend the cease-fire. When? On what date?

I do not want to take advantage of the hospitality of the Costa Rican people and Government so I will reveal the moment...[corrects himself] the date on which the measure will go into effect, when I am in Nicaragua. Nevertheless, I believe that this is not an insurmountable situation. I believe that if there is a will; if there is a flexible, mature, broad-minded attitude like the one perceived in the multi-lateral dialogue that all the presidents held here in San Jose, Costa Rica; if there is a concern, like I have noticed among the political leaders I talked with about the topic—because they have certainly stated their concern about the issue, then, I believe, a solution to the problem can be found.

We are exerting ourselves to achieve an overall peace but, on the other hand, the Tela Agreement—which has a 5 December deadline—is being obstructed; and a greater international pressure is needed for the agreement to be implemented. Instead, there is tolerance, tolerance [repeats himself], a certain apathy and complacence. Who is facing the consequences in the meantime? The Nicaraguan people are facing the consequences in the meantime; the Nicaraguans are being killed in the meantime; the Nicaraguan people's blood is being shed in the meantime.

We are paying a high cost and if we notice that no one shares our concern when a Nicaraguan dies....[changes thought] we notice that everyone is alarmed and concerned when Nicaragua states that it will have to suspend, meaning that it will not extend the cease-fire, yet no one is alarmed or concerned when the assassination of 19 Nicaraguans occurs. No one is alarmed or concerned; no one condemns the crime; and the international community does not issue an appeal to comply with the contras' demobilization in the dates agreed by the Central American presidents. No one is concerned.

Does this mean that the Nicaraguan people must continue to exert themselves and sacrifice themselves? Let me tell you, the Nicaraguan people's gestures are not simple gestures because they involve sacrifices. They are dying every day; they are being assassinated every day; they are being exposed to terrorist actions every day. I believe that the concern I noticed [among the presidents] can help us find a solution. However, it all depends on the U.S. Government most of all because....[changes thought] what has been the contras' attitude? Here is a contra communique which states, first of all, that Mrs Violeta Barrios and Mr Virgilio Godoy are the contras' candidates. They say this quite clearly in the communique.

I want to state that the freedom fighters support the National Opposition Union [UNO] presidential candidates. They say: We want to state that we advocate and fully support the UNO candidates. Another paragraph says: The freedom fighters will not put down our weapons and we will not accept a demobilization because we will be

the guarantors of the elections. Who appointed these criminals to be guarantors of the elections?

The observers....[changes thought] the Nicaraguan people will be the guarantors of the elections. We, the Nicaraguan people, are the guarantors of the elections; and the UN, OAS, the Carter Group, and other groups who are participating as observers and have been invited by Nicaragua—including the EEC, the Nonaligned Countries Movement, etc.—will be the qualified guarantors of the whole electoral process. Well, these people [the contras] have appointed themselves guarantors of the electoral process. This explains the increase in the mercenaries' activities.

Actually they are afraid the elections will be held in Nicaragua because they know the Nicaraguan people will vote for the FSLN and they are doing all this to block and to tarnish the electoral process. However, for the good of the electoral process itself, there exists not only the will of Nicaraguans to fulfill it but there is also the role of the observers. The observers will be perfectly capable of determining if the suspension of the truce by Nicaragua will be detrimental or beneficial to the electoral process. I am certain that the observers will be able to determine if this will benefit the electoral process because this in no way alters the electoral process or imposes any special emergency measure.

This does not mean holding elections under a state of siege; it does not mean holding elections under martial law or other emergency measures like some elections have indeed been held in other Latin American countries, elections which have been recognized by the U.S. Government. Instead, the question is to guarantee that the mercenaries, who were becoming guarantors of the electoral process, will not continue committing the crimes they are committing against the Nicaraguan people.

However, I was pointing out these two things. One, that I will announce the exact date, the moment when this measure will go into effect, in Nicaragua. Two, this can be solved if one works in the spirit with which we have worked here in San Jose. There is a solution.

When the U.S. Government approved the $62.7 million in logistical support for the mercenaries, it said clearly that if a plan was eventually worked out to demobilize the contras in Honduran territory, those funds could be used for demobilizing them and later relocating them, taking them back to Nicaragua, or locating them in third countries. It said those funds could be used this way.

Up to this moment, despite all that has been done in favor of the peacemaking process in Nicaragua; even though we are keeping open the amnesty offer to the contras; despite the United Nations work to achieve the demobilization of the contras; the U.S. Congress has not said a word about disposing of these funds. The funds should not be given to Nicaragua but to the United Nations. The United Nations can then see the contras and say: Well, gentlemen, the political conditions are in place in Nicaragua because the international observers are saying so and there are reports on this. We now have some economic and financial resources to proceed to repatriate those wishing to return to Nicaragua; to relocate those who do not want to return to a third country and if some wish to stay in Honduras, those who [word indistinct] in Honduras, well, they can stay on Honduran territory.

So, we think there is a solution. If, eventually, the U.S. Congress, because it is... [changes thought]. The president has the power to do it; he can do that immediately. The bill through which the U.S. Congress approved those funds gave the U.S. President the option to do this immediately. There is always talk of gestures and gestures are always requested from Nicaragua. So, if a gesture is made—because I think it is time to ask for gestures from the United States in favor of the peace plan—if the U.S. Government makes a gesture and disposes of these funds [by giving them to the United Nations] for the United Nations to use to demobilize the contras, then the conditions would be created for Nicaragua to decree a cease-fire unilaterally once more.

In other words, we have a solution. This does not mean we are entering a state of polarization. It is not that we experiencing a worsening of the crisis. Instead, we are responding to a concrete problem that is bringing death to Nicaraguans. We have been looking for a solution to it and that is the solution. The U.S. President, or the U.S. Congress, can at any moment dispose of those funds in the way they decided. It is not that I am telling them do this. You yourselves said that. It is written in the bill approved by Congress.

The moment that the U.S. Congress says these funds will be given to the United Nations in order for it to use them to demobilize the contras—and work has to be done to support the fulfillment of demobilization of the contras within the established deadlines, because that is very important and nobody should say now that it will not be possible to meet the deadlines, because no attempt has even been made to carry out the demobilization of the contras—then, if the U.S. Government assigns those funds or earmarks those funds for the demobilization of the contras and gives them to the United Nations, we will immediately renew the truce.

In other words, we would unilaterally decree an end to offensive operations in the national territory—that is, the truce we have observed all this time.

So, I would not be pessimistic about this situation. On the contrary, I think that this may well allow all of us to be more concerned about the lives of Nicaraguans. We may all be more concerned about peace in Nicaragua; we all may be more concerned about the fulfillment of the peace plan in Central America; we may all be more concerned about fulfilling the agreement to demobilize the contras in Honduran territory within the deadlines that have been agreed to.

I repeat, if we work with the resolve and spirit that I found here in San Jose during the multilateral dialogue

on 27 October, I believe we could very well change this situation, we could reverse this difficult situation. Nicaragua's peace and electoral processes must, therefore, receive effective support.

Everything that has been done so far by the contras, the very financing of the contras, a financing that allows them to murder us, the blockade policy, the embargo policy, all of these things, conspire against the electoral process. What countries have had better electoral processes? Those where there is no war, where economic problems are not so acute, where they are not faced with an embargo, with a blockade policy and the like. The more stable a country is militarily and economically, the better conditions exist, logically, for an electoral process.

I am demanding that Nicaraguans be respected, that we be allowed to carry out an electoral process with the minimum level of normalcy. That is all we are demanding, that the international community support us. I believe this would be a very important contribution to the Central America peace process, which is a worrisome issue for the Latin American and Caribbean nations, and for the international community.

Do you have any questions?

[Reporter] [question indistinct]

[Ortega] I would divide that in two parts. My first meeting with President Bush [words indistinct] was in the room where the presidents gathered before transfering to the other room where the meeting was to be inaugurated. While there we sustained a brief exchange, a brief dialogue. It was not a formal dialogue but we did discuss serious things, things that worry us both. We did not have an in-depth talk for obvious reasons.

At the multilateral dialogue in the afternoon, when all the American presidents who attended the meeting sat at the same table, along with the Canadian prime minister, we held a multilateral dialogue in which we all participated actively. President Arias spoke, he initiated the meeting, then President Menem spoke, then the Central American presidents spoke, President Perez, then I, President Sanguinetti, President Barco, President Sarney, the prime ministers of Guyana, Belize, Trinidad-Tobago, and then the prime minister of Canada who closed the meeting. President Bush listened attentively to all of us, and he broached issues that all the presidents there had expressed.

I view this meeting as the initiation of multilateral dialogue that is of interest for Nicaragua and all the nations in Latin America and the Caribbean. I consider this meeting a high-level dialogue, a very positive, constructive dialogue in which, without using diplomatic language, yet with great decency, all of the problems were broached, all of the problems were discussed.

[Reporter] [question indistinct]

[Ortega] That the elections may be affected is absurd. On the contrary, what could affect the elections is our simply standing by while the contras continue committing crimes. No country remains impassive to this type of terrorism. The U.S. Government itself, when it feels that terrorist actions are being perpetrated against its citizens, even in any country in the world, claims the right to mobilize its troops to secure the lives of U.S. citizens. [words indistinct] the basic right the Nicaraguans have to secure the lives of our own citizens. I do not believe it is up to the U.S. Government to determine whether or not this works in favor of or against the electoral process. That is why we have UN and OAS observers in Nicaragua. We have observers sent by President Carter's [word indistinct] We have observers from all over. This is an electoral process that has observers as no other electoral process has had them. It is truly exceptional.

I would like all the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean to accept the type of observation process Nicaragua has requested. This process constitutes a true test of an electoral process on truly fair terms for all the political, social, and economic sectors. Now regarding our government having caused these peasants' death, these are the outrageous lies that are told.

The limit is that in a LA PRENSA editorial in Nicaragua, the government was blamed for the SAHSA accident. Their reasoning is that since Nicaragua has a problem with the United States, and since the United States has been forced to implement an embargo against Nicaragua, the people had to fly SAHSA instead of the national airline AERONICA which used to fly to Miami before the embargo. Therefore, the SAHSA accident in Honduran territory, and the death of the Nicaraguans, is the Nicaraguan Government's responsibility. This is how far the madness, infamy, stupidity, and brutality has gone [words indistinct]. It is part of the campaign of infamy and slander against Nicaragua.

I would like to invite international observers to go to Nicaragua and determine who perpetrated those crimes. It is easy to demonstrate who is responsible for all these crimes I have described at the beginning of this news conference. I have said there are 3,370 victims. The victims' relatives and friends can attest to this. There are witnesses also. There are survivors of the attacks. We can bring them in. In this ambush, 19 were killed, but there are 6 survivors who were wounded. Those people are still alive. We would like the international organizations to come to Nicaragua and confirm who is perpetrating these crimes. Let the U.S. Congress be aware that the money they continue to give the contras is being used to kill Nicaraguans. Is it necessary to give them arms and ammunition? The contras are getting logistical support so they can raid the Nicaraguan territory and perpetrate criminal attacks against the Nicaraguan people. The U.S. Government and Congress are financing terrorist actions against the Nicaraguan people. This is what we have to end. I think the U.S. Government can show its goodwill.

[Reporter] Mr President, U.S. Secretary of State Baker has continued to say that Nicaragua has continued to

send arms to guerrillas and that you have not replied to President Alfredo Cristiani's request on this.

[Ortega] I would like Mr Baker to submit proof of that. Let him present the evidence. Let him describe any alleged shipments of arms sent to the Salvadoran guerrillas by Nicaragua. Let him submit proof. I only know there is a very serious conflict in El Salvador, that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] camps are in El Salvador, not in Nicaragua. And this can be verified. Here we have to act like Saint Thomas. Seeing is believing. Let observers go to Nicaragua and try to find where the guerrilla camps are located. But the contra camps can indeed be found. They are in Honduran territory. This can be demonstrated. Our territory is open for anybody to check if the FMLN bases are there. The FMLN bases are in El Salvador. Everyone knows that the cause of the Salvadoran crisis resides in El Salvador. It is not Nicaragua's cause. On the contrary, Nicaragua has advocated a negotiated solution to the Salvadoran conflict. But there is a large - scale confrontation in El Salvador. Various sectors are angry because the government has been launching military offensives against the Salvadoran population. But this is a problem that the Salvadorans will have to settle by themselves. I will not analyze this problem which must be settled by the Salvadorans. As a signator of the peace accords, I must back a negotiated, peaceful solution in El Salvador. This is what I must do. The rest is the responsibility of the Salvadorans themselves.

[Reporter] Mr President, (?I understand) that Nicaragua attended this meeting as a sort of gesture of flexibility. Why choose this gesture [words indistinct] which could be regarded as useless?

[Ortega] May I reiterate that we did not come to Costa Rica to make this gesture. I had already announced this gesture in Nicaragua. [words indistinct] simply, it was a fundamental action. How many Latin American governments....[changes thought]. We can mention the Peruvian, Salvadoran, and other Latin American Governments, which at one time or another have been forced to take special measures to cope with military situations. Elections were held in El Salvador in the midst of terrible violence. I heard President Bush say during the meeting we held yesterday that the elections held in El Salvador had been free, although they were held in the midst of a large - scale confrontation which cannot even be compared with the Nicaraguan conflict. Apparently, however, the military confrontation did not affect the electoral process. Consequently, the confrontation provoked by the contras and the measures taken by the Nicaraguan people do not have to be regarded as harsh. These are simple measures. If we have an organized military force it is to guarantee the security of the people.

The citizenry demands this. Any country in the world-....[changes thought] if a Costa Rican policeman finds a thief robbing a neighborhood and does not arrest him because he wants the criminal to become honest, the people will certainly protest and be angry. They want the policeman to act, and when he does act, it does not mean he is being cruel [words indistinct] on 22 October with the Army and Interior Ministry commanders.

[Reporter] President Ortega, referring to the issue of the alleged shipment of weapons to El Salvador, a few days ago the Honduran police found some trucks near the border post of El Espino, located on the Nicaraguan - Honduran border. According to the police, the trucks carried large amounts of concealed weapons being sent from Nicaragua to El Salvador. In addition, it is reported that President Cristiani last evening [words indistinct] begged you not to send more weapons to El Salvador. When President Cristiani heard that you....[corrects himself] the Sandinist Government had suspended the cease-fire he said that this is further proof that you want to remain in power by force. Your reaction please.

[Ortega] I repeat: Show me the evidence because there is an international weapons trafficking operation under way in Central America. Nicaragua is an area of peace. Nicaragua is in the heart of Central America. An area of peace. Show me the evidence. Let them show me the evidence which proves that those weapons came from Nicaragua and that weapons are being sent from Nicaragua to El Salvador. Let them show me the evidence. I have seen no evidence. I have only heard superficial accusations against Nicaragua—the usual superficial accusations against Nicaragua, because the problems which affect our countries are not being treated with the appropriate seriousness and responsibility.

[Reporter—in English] Mr President, could you [words indistinct] honesty of the voters' registration process [words indistinct]. Could you tell me [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] [words indistinct] measure to guarantee that the citizenry will exercise its right to vote without limitations or interference. This is being carefully watched by observers from the UN, OAS, and other organizations which are participating in the process which is being carried out in our country. The observers will not arrive 3 days before the elections in Nicaragua, as happens in other countries—where observers arrive 3 days before the elections to see how the people vote. The observers are watching the whole process in Nicaragua.

[Reporter] Mr President, [words indistinct].

[Ortega] No, I believe this is....[corrects himself] has been a great opportunity to talk with political leaders about the critical situation prevailing in Nicaragua instead of remaining impassive in the face of what takes place in Nicaragua. I repeat: This should not be considered an indication that the Nicaraguan Government's position will become inflexible; but it should be considered a fundamental measure. I also repeat: I am not here to announce the date on which this measure will be put into effect. I am also presenting alternatives that may help us gather strength so that the peace process may progress.

[Reporter] Mr President, in Tela you also proposed a Central American commission to counter drug trafficking. I would like to know if the topic was discussed here and if there has been any positive reaction from the U.S. Government. I also have a frivolous question: There have been a lot of comments about the way you dressed at the summit, when everyone else was wearing a suit and tie. I would like to know....[Ortega—interrupts] This is my tie. [crowd laughs] This is my tie. I will wear a suit and tie when Nicaragua's economy improves. You will see—when Nicaragua's economy improves. Now then, I believe your asked...what was it about?

[Reporter] About [words indistinct].

[Ortega] The topic was discussed in a general way during yesterday's dialogue. We really did not discuss the specific proposals presented by the Central American presidents. However, the Nicaraguan proposal was welcomed by the Central American presidents. The initiative has led to some meetings and we hope the United States will participate so that Central America is not used as a stop-over in the drug shipments to the United States.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] if Nicaragua is still facing a difficult situation as a result of foreign intervention? Do you think that the contras' demobilization will be a condition for holding the elections in February?

[Ortega] No. We have not said that the elections will be held provided that the contras are demobilized. We will hold the elections whether the contras are demobilized or not. The elections will be held in Nicaragua anyway because that is the decision adopted by the Nicaraguan Government and people. Logically, the elections will be held under better conditions if the contras are demobilized, but the elections will be held even if the contras are not demobilized. [Words indistinct] with the counterrevolutionary forces unless the peace plan is launched once and for all. We do not worry about the contras [words indistinct].

That is right: No one worries or cares if someone assassinates the Nicaraguan people but everyone worries if the Nicaraguan Government adopts measures to defend the Nicaraguan people's lives and guarantee the electoral process. Nevertheless, I believe it is all right for someone to worry because it would be worse if no one worried. I believe that the reaction, meaning the worry, is positive because this will compel everyone to work more actively so that the contra demobilization plan is carried out. There will be no reason to worry about a confrontation and there will be no reason to adopt a [words indistinct] toward the Nicaraguan Government if the contra demobilization plan is enforced, because there will be no [words indistinct] in Nicaragua.

[Reporter] What will Nicaragua's (?reaction) be if the contras are not demobilized by 5 December?

[Ortega] We are analyzing what other steps should be taken. We are analyzing other steps because the contra's demobilization is clearly (?specified). However, we must trust that if we all work together and are concerned-....[changes thought]if we all work together so that the Central American situation does not deteriorate, then we might attain the contras' demobilization by 5 December. This is perfectly possible; it is materially feasible; it is simply a matter of political will. The contras' demobilization plan can be implemented with a few resources if there is a political will to do it.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Ortega] Well, I have talked with political leaders who have stated their concern about the Nicaraguan Government's decision not to extend the cease-fire. They told me that they will exert themselves to the utmost so that the contras' demobilization is carried out. Otherwise, why [words indistinct] if we manage to demobilize the contras? Then, I repeat, the problem would be solved. Thank you and greetings to the Costa Rican people. [applause]

Announces Cease-Fire Suspension

PA2810045889 Paris AFP in Spanish 0407 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (AFP)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega announced tonight in the Costa Rican capital that he will suspend the unilateral cease-fire decreed on 21 March 1988, and will improve the organization of his country's defense because "we cannot go on with our hands tied."

Ortega, addressing students in the auditorium of the University of Costa Rica's law school, confirmed that "we have no other way out but to suspend the cease-fire" in order to "hit the contras hard," because—he assured—they have failed to respect the truce on numerous occasions.

"The cease-fire extensions are over," Ortega said, stressing that "we cannot go on with our hands tied," and he promised to provide further details regarding this statement on 28 October at a news conference.

"The straw that broke the camel's back," he said, was an attack on 21 October when the contras murdered 19 peasants who were on the way to register to participate in the electoral process.

"We must guarantee the elections," Ortega underscored, pointing out that 2 days ago two activists from the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] were also murdered, which constitutes "an attempt against the electoral process."

In view of this situation, he added, on 22 October "I met with the Army commanders and we concluded that our hands were tied" with the cease-fire decree.

"The United States is not really willing to demobilize the contras and the contras avail themselves of the cease-fire

to increase their actions," he added, emphasizing that "we cannot maintain it under these conditions."

"We must seek a way to guarantee the life of the Nicaraguans, so the cease-fire must end," he stated, adding that the top-echelons also decided to "organize the defense of our country even better."

Referring to the Central American peace plan, Ortega emphasized that "we must fulfill our pledges" concerning the contras' demobilization, and the Honduran president advocates it even though the United States is not willing to do that.

The Nicaraguan president wore a uniform and had a red and black handkerchief tied around his neck upon his arrival at the university, located in eastern San Jose. He was cheered and applauded by an euphoric audience that had been waiting for him since 1800 hours.

Ortega also spoke about other topics during the hour, mainly those discussed at the hemispheric summit he is attending along with 15 heads of state from the continent—including foreign debt, disarmament, and development.

"I have come to this meeting with the desire to talk to all of the heads of state participating," he noted, adding that "I am pleased with the talks I have held," on economic problems, debt, trade, the drug trafficking fight, the situation in Central America, and the need to a promote the North-South dialogue.

In addition, he said that he discussed the coffee problem with Brazilian President Jose Sarney, Colombian President Virgilio Barco, and the Costa Rican president in view of the need to seek a common Latin American position to fix the coffee price.

Regarding El Salvador, the Nicaraguan president insisted that "not even the slightest comparison can be made between the contras and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN)."

"The contras' camps are in Honduran territory and the FMLN's camps are in El Salvador, he said, pointing out that "this is verifiable," and "El Salvador's problem is not Nicaragua's problem." [quotation marks as received]

Regarding Panama, Ortega said that we defend self-determination and "all of Latin American should be concerned that the Panamanians are the ones who find a solution to their problems."

At the conclusion of his "chat" with the students, Ortega went immediately to the National Theater, in downtown San Jose, where the 16 heads of state of the continent were scheduled to dine tonight, during the continuation of the events marking the centennial of Costa Rican democracy.

Says U.S. Must Change

PA2910010789 Paris AFP in Spanish 0020 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] New York, 28 Oct (AFP)—Today Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, contrary to what he had said on 27 October, declared in San Jose that he is willing to maintain a unilateral cease-fire in his country if the United States changes its attitude toward the Nicaraguan contras.

In an interview with the National Broadcasting Network [NBC], a U.S. television network, shortly before his sudden departure from the Costa Rican capital, President Ortega said that the cease-fire would be extended "if the United States decides to effectively support the demobilization of the contras." He said that if the United States were to "provide funds for their mobilization, the situation would change."

Ortega said that "for the time being," this would be the only development that would make him maintain the cease-fire decreed in March 1988.

Ortega, who was in San Jose, Costa Rica, along with 15 other chiefs of state from the Americas to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Costa Rica's democracy, caused much commotion on 27 October when he announced his decision to suspend the cease-fire. Ortega justified his decision by declaring that his country cannot remain with its "tied hands" and continue enduring "the contra aggression."

The head of the Sandinist revolution, who left San Jose before the conclusion of the ceremonies, responded to recriminations from U.S. President George Bush, who on Saturday morning accused him during a news conference of having ruined the San Jose summit, by saying to NBC: "We have not ruined anything."

Leaves Summit Before Closing

PA2810181089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1752 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (ACAN - EFE)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega left Costa Rica today before the official closing of the summit of American democratically elected presidents.

Ortega, who was harshly criticized by U.S. President George Bush and by other government leaders for having announced during the summit the end of the truce with the "contras," left at 1150 (1750 GMT) in the presidential aircraft for Nicaragua.

The reason for the Nicaraguan president's decision to leave were not explained by Ortega or by his official spokespersons.

Reaction to Ortega's Suspension of Cease-Fire

'Lack of Nerve' Noted

PA2910155289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1303 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Report by Jose Antonio Maillo]

[Text] San Jose, 29 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's announcement of a suspension of the cease-fire in his country, which could mean the resumption of war in Nicaragua, got the attention of the 17 presidents who attended the 2-day summit in San Jose.

Ortega announced Friday in San Jose the end of the military truce with the "contras" that had been maintained since March 1988. Consequently, during a news conference on 28 October, President Bush had to answer many questions regarding the Sandinist leader.

Bush described Ortega's controversial announcement as "a low blow for democracy" and warned that a Sandinist military offensive would provoke a 180-degree turn in the Central American situation.

Nevertheless, the attitude of the Nicaraguan president, who did not attend the summit's closing ceremony, surprised international observers in San Jose, who were puzzled by Ortega's great interest in shaking hands with President Bush and his subsequent announcement of the suspension of the cease-fire in Nicaragua.

According to diplomatic sources at the summit, the presidents were also "baffled" at the "lack of nerve" shown by Ortega during his statements, which apparently contrasted with the courage shown by Sarney (Brazil) and Azcona (Honduras), particularly concerning the foreign debt problem.

President Bush himself said at the beginning of a news conference that "the fact that Ortega did not announce his intentions during so many hours of dialogue among the presidents of American democracies shows the ignominy of his action."

Some presidents were also surprised by and commented on Ortega's cautiousness when dealing with the Panamanian crisis.

Panamanian opposition leader Ricardo Arias Calderon mentioned during a reception on 28 October in San Jose that he briefly met Daniel Ortega during the summit, which surprised Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, who was accompanying him.

"We met Ortega when we were going to a meeting with [Venezuelan President] Carlos Andres Perez. We greeted each other cordially, and he told us that he was very interested in the Panamanian situation and that he hoped that a favorable solution would be found soon," Ricardo Arias said. He added that he was very surprised when Ortega told him that he was interested in maintaining "more fluid and frequent contacts with us."

On 27 October, there was an unusual situation during Ortega's meeting with Costa Rican university students at the Law School, which was attended by approximately 2,000 students and part of the diplomatic corps accredited in San Jose.

The students cheered Ortega, who answered their questions after explaining the current situation in Nicaragua. A Panamanian student proposed condemning Oscar Arias for not inviting Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez to the presidential summit. However, Ortega refrained from doing so, saying that he respected the Costa Rican president's decision and that he did not want to meddle in the affairs of other states.

Nicaraguan diplomats told ACAN-EFE in Managua last week that the Panamanian situation had a negative effect on Nicaragua's sullen relations with the United States.

The presidents who attended the Costa Rican summit to commemorate the 100th anniversary of democracy in that country left San Jose worried that the Sandinist Army might start a military offensive, which could have negative effects on the Nicaraguan electoral process that will culminate with the 25 February elections.

Announcement Causes Ill-Feelings

PA3010000989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2121 GMT 28 Oct 89

[By Diego Dillenberger]

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (DPA)—The American Summit, which promised in its first meeting to be just a social event, became the scene of a deepening conflict between the United States and Nicaragua.

The announcment by President Daniel Ortega that Nicaragua will restart military activities against the U.S.-backed rebels provoked serious accusations by U.S. President George Bush, who harshly criticized the measure and the way Ortega made the announcement.

Although Ortega explained to the press that the cease-fire was renewed by his government on a monthly basis since March 1988, and was being lifted because of increased activity by the U.S.-backed rebels, Bush described the measure as a regrettable step backward.

Bush also criticized how he considered it shameful that the announcement took place during the summit and that Ortega spoke to the press without giving any hint during Friday's talks. Delegation members agreed that the summit caused a worsening of the climate achieved at the last meeting of Central American presidents.

At the same time, observers believed that despite the fact that it was agreed from the start that to avoid friction no joint declaration would be issued, the presence in San Jose of Nicaraguan opposition presidential candidate Violeta Chamorro was potentially conflictive.

The participants at the summit agreed that aside from any reasons the Nicaraguan Government may have to

lift the unilateral cessation of hostilities, Ortega committed a serious mistake by announcing the measure at the summit.

Despite the many meetings that took place between the presidents to discuss urgent current topics, among which is the Central American conflict, no event received as much notice as the clash between the two presidents.

However, on Friday, at the start of the summit, the improvised and brief dialogue in the corridor between Bush and Ortega had brought expectations about future bilateral negotiations.

Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, who hosted the summit, criticized as a rebuff that Ortega did not attend the closing ceremony, taking his plane back to Managua. This statement by Arias was made in the framework of a summit conflict, because Ortega was not the only president to leave early. Brazilian President Jose Sarney left Costa Rica last night.

Presidents Criticize Decision

PA2910013489 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0051 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (DPA)—Presidents Oscar Arias, Carlos Andres Perez, and Julio Maria Sanguinetti, of Costa Rica, Venezuela, and Uruguay, respectively, today spoke against Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's decision to suspend the cease-fire in his country.

Arias said: "This decision is contrary to the spirit of the agreements reached at the latest meeting of Central American presidents in Tela, Honduras, and does not contribute to the cause of peace."

Perez said during a dialogue with journalists at the Melico Salazar Popular Theater: "I hope Ortega will correct this huge error and maintain the cease-fire."

The president of Uruguay stated: "This is a decision that hurts a lot because it goes against everything we have said about peace."

Costa Rican Information Minister Jorge Urbina was more forthright: "It is incredible that the president of Nicaragua has made this announcement in Costa Rica where there had been talks about peace and democracy. Mr Ortega could have waited to make the announcement in Nicaragua, but, acting ungracefully, he made it in Costa Rica, and this is grave because it snubs the heads of government who attended the summit."

OAS Secretary Expresses Regrets

PA2910002889 Paris AFP in Spanish 2322 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (AFP)—OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares has expressed regrets over the Nicaraguan Government's decision to suspend the cease-fire and voiced hopes that the reasons which motivated it will be overcome.

He remarked, however, that "it is necessary to ease tensions in Nicaragua," and that the sides to the conflict should uphold the spirit of peace and conciliation framed in the regional peace agreements.

Baena said that it would make him "very sad" to see a worsening of armed activities in Nicaragua, which was the argument used by the Nicaraguan Government to justify the suspension of the cease-fire in that country.

The OAS is playing a very active role in the electoral process in Nicaragua, which will culminate with general elections on 25 February 1990.

On another subject, Baena said that hemispheric summit that closed on Saturday, 28 October, in Costa Rica, "marked an important starting point for a new relationship in the hemisphere."

According to Baena, the meeting of 16 heads of state of the continent "was very favorable because it became the first meeting of this dimension on the continent in over 20 years and because the talks were held in a climate of substantial objectivity and frankness rather than of rhetorics and confrontation."

It was an affirmation of the democratic process and also a starting point for a new hemispheric relationship," Baena stressed after emphasizing the importance of regional integration in line with the changes the world is undergoing in the area of political and economic unity.

He also expressed pleasure over the announcement that Canada will join the OAS which, in his opinion, "is a response to those who criticize the hemispheric organization and describe it as irrelevant."

"I hope that Canada's incorporation into the OAS will bring a new thrust to the organization; that it will participate more and more in the debates; and that it will provide a faster and faster response to the demands for technical cooperation from the developing countries," Baena said.

Menem Says No Help To Peace

PA2910001889 Paris AFP in Spanish 2314 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (AFP)—Argentine President Carlos Menem today said that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's announcement about lifting the cease-fire "does not help at all in Latin America's peace efforts."

"That announcement is incompatible with what the people want. I will tell President Ortega this when I meet with him in Managua on Monday," Menem stated at a news conference at the Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation [IICA] in San Jose.

Menem said that in his meeting with Ortega in Managua on 30 October, he will offer to mediate in a dialogue between the contras and the Sandinist Government to "make it easier for Nicaragua to return to democracy."

Menem reiterated his country's interest that there should be free elections in Nicaragua. He also said that 11 Argentine observers have been analyzing the Nicaraguan electoral process and found it to be positive.

Menem had previously discussed the Nicaraguan elections situation with U.S. President George Bush and Violeta Chamorro, Nicaraguan opposition presidential candidate, apart from the hemisphere summit, which concluded in Costa Rica on 28 October.

Menem, however, disagreed with Brazilian President Jose Sarney's criticism of the United States for the latter's alleged indifference toward Latin America.

Menem said: "Latin America certainly was not a priority concern of the United States, but I think the U.S. Government is looking in the direction of this region."

The Argentine president—who on 29 October will travel to a Costa Rican Pacific beach by invitation of Costa Rican President Oscar Arias—described as "positive" the hemispheric summit held in Costa Rica this weekend with the attendance of 16 heads of state.

Menem said further: "It was a meeting without conflicts or any type of problems. There was great agreement on disarmament, debt, drugs, deforestation, development, and democracy."

Asked about his integrationist policy and Cuba's eventually regaining membership in the OAS, Menem answered: "As far as Argentina is concerned, there are no more ideological barriers. Argentina will maintain relations with all countries as long as these relations benefit our country's interests. As for Cuba joining OAS, this will have to be decided by all of the organization's member states, not by just one country only."

Menem Offers To Mediate

PA2910015389 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0044 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (DPA)—Argentine President Carlos Menem announced today that he will travel to Nicaragua on Monday, and that he will mediate between the United States and Nicaragua in an "attempt to solve, within the next few weeks, the conflict these two countries have sustained for many years."

Menem spoke to reporters at a reception given in his honor by the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IICA), which falls under the OAS, and whose headquarters is in Costa Rica, 5 km from San Jose.

Menem will remain in Costa Rica and on 29 October will travel with President Oscar Arias to a beach in the remote Guanacaste Province.

Commenting on Ortega's decision to eliminate the cease-fire, Menem said: "That decision is regrettable and also very worrisome because it is a hindrance to peace in the Central American region." Menem pointed out that "Pacification must be sought, and Ortega's decision will not in any way contribute to the effort."

Menem To Go to Managua

PA2910213889 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1938 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 29 Oct (DPA)—Of all the presidents who attended the San Jose summit, Carlos Menem of Argentina is the only one who is still in Costa Rica. He will fly to Managua tomorrow to meet with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega.

Menem said: "I am worried about Commander Ortega's announcement that he will lift the cease-fire. This should not be construed as interference in Nicaragua's domestic affairs, but I will talk with Ortega on this matter and try to convince him to correct this mistake. I would gladly mediate between the United States and Nicaragua, if necessary. I am on very friendly terms with Bush and Ortega. People can reach an agreement by talking."

Menem, who danced until early this morning at a party at the Argentine Embassy, planned to go to a beach today with President Oscar Arias and the latter's wife, Margarita Penon de Arias, but "the trip had to be cancelled because Menem's wife, Zulema Yoma, became ill shortly before leaving," an Argentine delegation source said.

Menem will leave for Managua at 1000 tomorrow, will stay there approximately 7 hours, and then will return to Buenos Aires.

Cristiani on Suspension

PA2910005689 Paris AFP in Spanish 2123 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Washington, 28 Oct (AFP)—Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani said today that the decision to suspend the cease-fire in Nicaragua, as it has been announced by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, would be "very unfortunate" and "would pose problems for the Central American peace plan."

During an interview granted in San Jose to CNN, a U.S. television network, Cristiani also said that he has discarded the possibility of a military intervention in Panama. Regarding his talks with the armed opposition in his country he said he is "cautiously optimistic."

Cristiani said he would be "disappointed" if the Nicaraguan president were to suspend the unilateral cease-fire decreed on 21 March 1988. This would prove, Cristiani said, that Ortega is not willing "to respect the promises made in the framework of the Central American peace plan" signed in 1987 by Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Honduras.

According to Cristiani, Ortega has already broken his commitment by continuing to send arms to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), as Honduras revealed this week.

Cristiani admitted, however, that "not much can be done" if Ortega upholds the decision he announced on 27 October in San Jose where he and 15 other chiefs of state of the continent attended an inter-American summit.

Regarding Panama, the Salvadoran president said that the OAS countries will "continue making efforts, especially diplomatic efforts, to establish democracy" in that country "in the near future." He discarded the possibility of a military intervention in Panama. "No one here (in San Jose, where members of the Panamanian opposition were also present) is in favor of a military intervention in Panama."

Cristiani stated his support for U.S. President George Bush with regard to the recent coup attempt in Panama. Cristiani said that Bush "did what he had to" when he rejected a military intervention on the side of the coupists. Regarding the peace talks his government is holding with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], Cristiani declared himself "cautiously optimistic" and noted that contrary to the talks held between the FMLN and former President Jose Napoleon Duarte, the current meetings are not "isolated events." Now, he said, "the process is completely different." This process, he added, is the "result of an agreement signed last September in Mexico by the two sides."

Regarding charges by a Salvadoran soldier, Cesar Vielman Joya Martinez, who said this week that he participated in assassinations committed by a death squad on orders, according to him, from the Salvadoran high military command and who also noted that U.S. military advisers had to know what was going on, Cristiani said that these charges are part of "FMLN efforts" to discredit his government.

Martinez will be "sentenced to jail for having done what he has said he has done," Cristiani said. The Salvadoran president admitted that this type of incident still occurs but noted that the Salvadoran authorities punish crime.

Cristiani concluded by stating: "Martinez is a deserter and a warrant for his arrest has been issued."

Joya Martinez, who fled his country in July and sought political asylum in the United States, made his statements to a group of journalists in Washington.

Contra Leader Speaks

PA2810160989 Paris AFP in Spanish 1430 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (AFP)—Enrique Bermudez, military chief of the contras, said the rebels will remain on a war footing to prevent "Sandinist fraud" and to guarantee the victory of the National Opposition Union (UNO) in next February's elections.

"We will not accept demobilization because we will see to it that the elections are clean and honest. That is why we will remain in the mountains of Nicaragua with our weapons ready to be used against the Sandinists and to prevent their accomplices and their collaborators from registering and that is how we will stop the fraud," Bermudez said.

The statement made by the rebel leader was distributed at the hemispheric summit in San Jose just as Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega last night announced the suspension of the unilateral cease-fire, which was in effect for a year and a half.

"The contras intend to boycott the elections and the government is not going to allow that," an Ortega collaborator said.

Official sources said in Managua that the objectives of the Sandinist Government is to deliver "an overwhelming blow" to about 3,000 contras who have "infiltrated into national territory" over the past year.

Bermudez gave his "unconditional support" to Violeta Barrios de Chamorro and to Virgilio Godoy, UNO presidential candidates, and he announced that the contras "are bent on winning the elections" along with the opposition coalition.

Likewise, he said that, during the meeting held 2 weeks ago in the rebel camps in western Honduras, he noticed that the members of the International Support and Verification Commission (CIAV) were "biased" toward the "Sandinist dictatorship."

"I noticed that their offers were nothing more than a trap to eliminate us and our right to military defense," he said.

The CIAV is composed of UN and OAS delegates and their objective is to supervise the demobilization of the contras which, according to what the Central American presidents have agreed, should be completed by 7 December of this year.

Chamorro Comments on Decision

PA2910020389 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0103 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (DPA)—Violeta Chamorro, the opposition's candidate for the 25 February elections in Nicaragua, has said that Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega's decision to suspend the cease-fire in his country is "just a pretext." "Faced with evidence that if there are free and clean elections, the opposition will overwhelmingly defeat Sandinism. Ortega is now making this announcement to try to prevent elections from being held in my country," she said.

Chamorro noted: "It is quite evident in Nicaragua that the opposition has the support of the Nicaraguan people and Ortega knows this very well." Chamorro stated: "We are going to participate in the elections. We want them to be free. We are going to win." She added: "We want peace in our country. We do not want any more armed clashes and we are seeing that Ortega wants the war to continue."

Chamorro noted that "Ortega did not dare announce the suspension of the cease-fire in front of the chiefs of state attending the summit because he has no justification for that decision."

Ortega To Announce Cease-Fire Suspension 28 Oct

PA2810024189 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0053 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)— Tomorrow, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega will announce the suspension of the unilateral cease-fire which the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) has maintained and extended month after month.

This information was given to ACAN-EFE today in San Jose by Nicaraguan Information Minister Manuel Espinoza, who explained that "the measure has been adopted because of the increase in violence caused by the contras who are operating within the country," and who have killed 20 EPS members in recent days.

Ortega is scheduled to meet with the national and international news media tomorrow at 0730 (1330 GMT) within the framework of the American presidents' summit currently under way in San Jose.

"President Ortega will announce tomorrow that Nicaragua is suspending the unilateral cease-fire which it had decreed and extended month after month following the Sapoa Agreements," Espinoza asserted.

The Sandinists and the contras reached the first cease-fire agreement early in 1988 during a meeting in the Nicaraguan town of Sapoa, located 20 km from the Costa Rican border. The Nicaraguan Government unilaterally decided to maintain the cease-fire.

The minister said to ACAN-EFE that the decision will not affect the Nicaraguan electoral process, which will conclude with the 25 February elections.'

According to Espinoza, the electoral campaign is definitely being affected by the anti-Sandinists' violence, which has increased in recent weeks.

Espinoza said that the Nicaraguan President will explain tomorrow the "additional reasons and motives" which led the Sandinist Government to decide that it would no longer extend the cease-fire.

Arias Says Panama Not on Summit Agenda

PA2710154489 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1210 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] The summit of American presidents [words indistinct] our decision on what we want for the region, Costa Rican President Arias Sanchez stated at a news conference held for national and international newsmen in the Orchid Room of the Sheraton Hotel the afternoon of 26 October.

After receiving Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, who arrived at the Juan Santamaria Airport 26 October, the president responded to many questions and commented on the hemispheric summit.

Whoever has the role of host has the right to decide who will attend the conference. Our country is celebrating its centennial of democracy and that is why some presidents, who are not considered to fall within that celebration and what it signifies for Costa Rica, were not invited, Dr Oscar Arias Sanchez said responding to a question on why the presidents of Cuba, Chile, and Panama had not been invited.

Mr Ortega and President Bush will attend. Arias said that he hopes that the exchange of viewpoints and ideas will be of great benefit for all. When one speaks of democracy in America, it is difficult not to speak of Panama. Regarding Panama, newsmen asked if it would be on the agenda, to which the president responded that when one speaks of democracy it is difficult not to speak of Panama. Arias replied: It is not easy to speak of the future of democracy in the Central American region without speaking of that country. I have learned that no president (?would be willing) to sign a document on agreements regarding Panama. Therefore, nothing specific will be discussed in that respect. There are other topics of great importance for our countries, which are known to many of you. They are related to human rights, disarmament, the foreign debt, and, above all, to our development.

He said it would be a lack of consideration to his president-colleagues to seek an agreement on something that was not discussed beforehand. It would be like pulling a card from one's sleeve. If they were called upon to commit themselves on something like that, it would be a lack of respect for our president-colleagues, President Oscar Arias reiterated.

What do you think, Mr President, about the participation of the Soviet Union in the Central American peace process, journalist Victor Gorbachev, who is one of the newsmen visiting us, asked. President Arias responded: I believe that the peace process of the region will not be successful if it does not have the support of the entire world, fundamentally of the two superpowers.

President Arias views with sympathy the fact that the two superpowers are talking regarding Central America. He said: You will remember that this was not possible in the past. I had always insisted on it many times, but it was always impossible to get the topic of peace in Central America included in the agenda of the two superpowers. Today we see this when we see that the first topic of the agenda of the two superpowers is the situation in Central America. This demonstrates that there is an interest in taking this step, which we regard as an important stride forward. It is important that the support given to us be sincere. A close look must be given at what is said and what is done, President Arias Sanchez stated.

Leaders Arrive for Hemispheric Summit

Colombia's Barco Arrives

PA2710161989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0513 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 26 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Upon arriving in Costa Rica, Colombian President Virgilio Barco today expressed hopes that there will be a "multinational effort" to control drug consumption.

"I believe that there is consensus among drug-consuming and drug-producing countries to control narcotics consumption," the Colombian president said. He argued that "there is an awareness of the danger facing us and future generations" because of drug trafficking.

The Colombian president, along with 16 other international leaders, will participate this weekend in a summit called by his Costa Rican counterpart, Oscar Arias, to mark the centennial of Costa Rican democracy.

Barco flatly denied that he will hold talks with the drug mafia that has waged an all-out war with the government for the past few months.

"I suppose that, morally speaking, no government could suggest such a thing," the Colombian president said regarding a possible dialogue with the drug cartels.

Barco was greeted by the applause of Costa Rican officials and members of the national and international press who awaited his arrival. He was accompanied by a large delegation that included Foreign Minister Julio Londono and Jorge Cardenas, president of the National Coffee Growers Federation.

As for the coffee issue, which concerns several leaders who are at the summit, Barco expressed hope that this weekend's dialogue "will yield a preliminary accord to reinstate a worldwide quota agreement."

Colombia is the world's number two coffee producer after Brazil. As a result of a drop in international coffee prices, Colombia has registered a significant decline in foreign revenues estimated at about $1 billion.

Ortega, Menem, Perez Here

PA2710154289 Paris AFP in Spanish 1502 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (AFP)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega arrived in Costa Rica this morning without previously advising of his arrival time. He will participate in the hemispheric summit to be held today and tomorrow on the occasion of the 100th anniversaary of Costa Rican democracy.

Ortega and his delegation arrived at Juan Santamaria International Airport aboard a Nicaraguan Air Force plane minutes after the arrival of his Argentine counterpart, Carlos Menem.

Wearing a military uniform and a red and black handkerchief of the Sandinist National Liberation Front around his neck, Ortega was greeted by President Oscar Arias and members of his cabinet.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 1513 GMT on 27 October reports that Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez arrived in Costa Rica aboard a military plane at 1505 GMT and was greeted by President Oscar Arias and his cabinet]

Ortega Arrival Statement

PA2710164589 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1500 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Statement by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega at the Juan Santamaria Airport in San Jose—live]

[Text] [words indistinct] we will take the first steps toward a North-South dialogue, which is so necessary and urgent for strengthening democracy in the Americas.

I want to greet the Costa Rican people, President Arias, the Costa Rican people, members of the cabinet, the Costa Rican children who are here this morning greeting the various delegations, and the local and international press.

I want to congratulate Costa Rica on this centennial, which is such an important historical date. Costa Rica has called the peoples of the Americas to such a necessary and urgent dialogue in order to strengthen democracy in each and every one of the countries of the Americas.

Without the North - South dialogue, without discussing the economic problems, without discussing the commercial problems, without discussing the problems linked to international law and to the respect that is owed to all nations, undoubtedly democracy would be seriously jeopardized throughout the Americas. This is the great opportunity Costa Rica is offering us, that the president is offering us through his initiative of bringing us all together to hold a dialogue, so that we can converse, which is the least one can expect from serious and responsible men.

Regardless of the political differences, of the ideological differences, dialogue is a basic means for building peace. Thank you, Costa Rican people. Thank you, President Arias.

Arias Greets Bush

PA2710171789 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1554 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Statement by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias greeting U.S. President George Bush on his arrival at the Juan Santamaria airport in San Jose—live]

[Text] I have a very special announcement this morning that is of great significance for our country. In addition to extending the warmest welcome on behalf of my government and peoples to President Bush, who is

visiting us for the 2d time in 3 years, I want to say that after many months of arduous negotiations—so many months that you could go back to the early part of my administration when we began our talks with the private international banks—we have reached an agreement in principle on the restructuring of this debt. Through this agreement, we will reduce our foreign debt by approximately $1 billion. This $1 billion does not represent much for our U.S. northern neighbors, but to us Costa Ricans, $1 billion represents all the dollars in the world. [applause]

To give you an idea, when I assumed office, Costa Rica's exports were far below $1 billion. That signifies that the servicing of our foreign debt has also been reduced by two-thirds. If we had to pay approximately $150 million to service that debt before, now we will have to pay only $50 million. I want to express special appreciation to all the economic team members who have been traveling constantly to Washington for many years to negotiate the reduction of our foreign debt with private banks: Eduardo Lizano, Fernando Naranjo, [word indistinct] Charpentier, Sylvia Saborio, Rodrigo Bolanos, and, in short, all of those who have made it possible to reach this agreement. I wish to express special appreciation to the U.S. Government. We have done this within the spirit of the Brady Plan. If it had not been for the support of U.S. President Bush, if it had not been for the support of Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, and particularly the interest always shown by David (Mosul), the struggle of many weeks which have preceded the securing of this agreement would have been even more difficult and I would not be able to be making this lovely announcement today to the Costa Rican people. My friends, it will permit Costa Rica's development to be even more accelerated in the coming years.

Because of all of this, I think it is the best occasion to celebrate this agreement with the private banks, because it is the best gift we can bequeath to the future generations of Costa Ricans.

Welcome, President Bush, and thank you very much for all of the help you have given us to make this negotiation possible. [applause]

URNG Sends Letter to Bush on Aid to Army

PA2710172389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1518 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Shortly before the arrival of President Bush in Costa Rica to join 16 other presidents holding a summit, the Guatemalan guerrillas today asked U.S. President George Bush "to suspend military aid to the Guatemalan Army.

A communique from the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG), delivered to the media in San Jose, requests President Bush to suspend such military aid because "it is used to increase human rights violations," in Guatemala.

The U.S. aid to Guatemala was suspended at the beginning of this decade because the White House wanted to improve the human rights situation in Guatemala. However, the aid was resumed in 1988 with "nonlethal" assistance, which has been gradually increased.

According to the URNG, the U.S. military aid "worsens the internal armed conflict and seriously harms noncombatant civilians."

The Guatemalan guerrillas requested the presidents and chiefs of state who are meeting in San Jose celebrating the 100th anniversary of Costa Rican democracy "to intercede on their behalf in the search for a political solution" to the Guatemalan conflict.

The Guatemalan insurgent movement is one of the oldest—30-years old—in Latin America, and in the past few months it has increased its actions.

The URNG "reiterates its political desire to search for peace and to build a democracy in Guatemala," the communique released last night in San Jose adds.

Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, who sent excuses because he could not attend the summit for work reasons, has repeatedly refused to hold a dialogue with the rebels unless they lay down their weapons and join political life in the country.

The rebels believe that in the "past 3 years (Cerezo's term began in 1986) the hopes for a democracy have vanished" in the country due to the government's "lack of political resolve" to find a solution to the conflict and because of the internal contradictions in the Army.

The URNG maintains that "the repeated failure to keep" the 1987 Central American peace agreements, known as Esquipulas II, has resulted in an "intensification of the internal armed conflict in Guatemala.

Arias Speech Opens Hemispheric Summit in 27 Oct

PA2710231089 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1739 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Speech by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias opening the Hemispheric Summit in the Cariari Hotel in San Jose; broadcast in progress—live]

[Text] ...Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem [applause], Belizean Prime Minister George Price [applause], Brazilian President Jose Sarney [applause], Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney [applause], Colombian President Virgilio Barco [applause], Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja [applause], Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani [applause], U.S. President George Bush [applause], Guyanese President Hugh Desmond Hoyte [applause], Honduran President Jose Azcona Hoyo [applause], Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley [applause], Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra [applause], Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti [applause], Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez [applause]. I also greet the

presidents of the supreme powers of Costa Rica, former presidents, former vice presidents, the San Jose Archbishop, the delegations accompanying the heads of state, Puerto Rican Governor Rafael Hernandez Colon, Special Guests and Observers [applause], the Diplomatic Corps, the Deputies, Supreme Court Magistrates, Supreme Electoral Council Magistrates, State Ministers, Comptroller General of the Republic, Friends: Welcome to Costa Rica, a country without weapons which does not know oppression. Thank you for being here with us on the celebration of the centennial of our democracy [applause]. Rich and poor, developed and underdeveloped, industrialized, and developing countries, north and south, economies of abundance and subsistence, perhaps tomorrow we will be divided into space and land countries.

These are the words that we have always used to say the same thing. There are nations that have much and others that do not. There are people who have increasingly more and others who have increasingly less. These are words that indicate a distance that is ever increasing, a separation that is becoming untenable. Many paths have been chosen to confront the imbalances that exist in the welfare of men and nations. To a lesser or greater extent, almost all of the countries have increased their enterprises and projects of social welfare through the state. Some even thought that it was necessary to withhold liberties to achieve a discipline that would permit economic growth.

The passing of the years has shown us that where men were imprisoned success was slow and delayed. Little by little the people of the world understood that liberty was the first prerequisite in achieving a sustained development and a lasting peace. Some began to reduce the state apparatus and others to dismantle it. Dictators fell in all latitudes, as will the ideological curtains, walls, and wire fencing. [applause]

Humanity is facing a reencounter with democracy. Few are the men in history who have the privilege of advocating the liberty of their peoples. Few are those who have the opportunity of forging a new style, of shaping their new image, and determining their scope of action. Whoever hides rancor in his heart cannot govern at this hour, nor can anyone who adheres to the past, has stained his hands with blood or has dirtied them with drugs and corruption, because dictatorships and evil have no place in the world of democracy. [applause]

This democratic reencounter, this spectacular triumph of the spirit does not mean that we can renounce solidarity. On the contrary, some believe that liberty is synonymous with egotism and they plan for the future to amass more wealth among a few men and nations. Liberty was not rescued from the claws of oppression to be transformed into a prisoner of egotism. Many times we have seen how those who headed struggles against a dictatorship in the name of liberty began new dictatorships under other ideological persuasions. We are living in times when the meaning of words and values rescued by the people from the tyrannies cannot be mocked. [applause]

The rest of the world has to decide what it will do with liberty. Just as in our own countries we are tied by the inertia of many institutions of the past, so are we bound in the international world. We must have courage and vision. We must be capable of engaging in dialogue soon so as to do away with attitudes that bind us to the past. We must be courageous and strengthen our faith in a different world. We are tired of the world of denouncements. We want a world of results. We have been denouncing poverty for 40 years and poverty continues. We have been denouncing inequalities for 40 years and the inequalities continue. We denounced the debt and the financing organizations. The debt continues to grow while the financing organizations become more powerful. We have denounced hunger and hunger has continued. Our impotence in the face of the denouncements, threats, and violence is destroying us.

Let us welcome freedom. Let us set aside all dogmatism so that a new understanding will allow us to work toward better solutions. This decade has been so encouraging regarding freedom but it has been a lost decade for development. We have [word indistinct] the freedom that is born from the institutions of the past, those that were imposed when (?dogmas ruled without opposition), when the cold war could become a nuclear weapon, when the state was powerful and almighty. We continue to close the borders for our markets; new technology is being hidden and the price of patents becomes increasingly higher with each step we take toward the future. This irrevocably forces millions of human beings to live in ignorance and backwardness.

When we make exceptions in the economy for the benefit of the most powerful ones, we are betraying the freedom we had regained. It would be a grave error, now that we can knock down the ideological walls that separate peoples, if we would allow not only the continuation of economic divisions but build higher walls further separating rich and poor nations. [applause]

This decade that marks the end of the 20th century offers a very unique opportunity for understanding and for people's development. It was 2000 years ago when a man asked for peace on earth for men of goodwill. There has not been a single century when there has not been a war. We have before us a common agenda which concerns us all: Democracy, development, disarmament, debt, deforestation, and drugs. It is up to us to leave behind an era of confrontation among the nations that has has yielded nothing.

Our commitment should be that of opening an opportunity to cooperate among all of us, to confront and overcome the common problems, to set new guidelines that will encourage the hopes of the youths throughout all corners of the world. [words indistinct] democracies were made in times of war. Thus, we want democracy in

all of our countries so there will be a lasting peace that will allow us to reduce what is spent today in weapons and dedicate these resources to development.

When I took office in May 1986 in the presence of many of you, I called for an alliance of freedom and democracy in the Americas, as a necessary requirement for an era of peace and [word indistinct]. I am very happy to welcome here today the men who led the return to democracy of their peoples. The task has not concluded. There are still authoritarian governments. There are still tyrannies. In our continent there are still dictatorships that have existed for 30 years and others for 15, to the shame of the history of liberty. Along with encouraging elections that open the opportunities for democracies, we must use all the diplomatic means available so that not a single tyrant remains in America. [applause]

The dictatorial regimes are repugnant, not only because they coerce liberty, violate human rights, and encourage the arms race, but also because corruption always hides behind them. Because there is freedom in a democratic regime, it is always possible to prevent these problems.

The most beautiful example of how freedom defends itself today is Colombia. I render tribute to President Virgilio Barco [applause], I render tribute to President Virgilio Barco, to his people, and to the jorunalists for the courageous example they have given in confronting the terrible threat of drug traffickers.

Just like we are moved by the courage of Colombia, we must be concerned about what happens when these criminal mafias are sheltered by some dictatorships. Over and over again, history has shown us that when tyrants fall, the truth uncovered by freedom is usually terrifying: Imprisonment, torture, death, hunger, concentration and extermination camps. We must put an end to all dictatorships of the Americas, because there will not be peace among us as long as a single one of them still exists. There can be no tranquillity in our nations as long as a government lends itself to hiding corruption and distributing drugs. The harm caused by drugs crosses all borders.

We must also cross these borders in order to defeat those who prod and traffick drugs, and those who protect this infamous trade. We offer our unrestricted support for the drug trafficking summit that was convened by the presidents of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru. We also support a meeting of the OAS so that as soon as possible, we will establish the tasks and responsibilities for eradicating narcotics trafficking.

Last night my country's Legislative Assembly proudly approved one of the most severe laws in the world to overcome this scourge. If the right to development does not soon become a reality that is shared among all nations, millions of human beings will seek a better future by migrating to other countries. When a peasant, who works the land south of the Rio Bravo, crosses the border to a rich country, he gains 100 years of development for him and 200 years for his children.

It is necessary that the struggle for human rights, freedom, and democracy and against drugs becomes a struggle without borders. Development should also be a crusade without geographic limits. Poverty in any part of the world should be considered an injustice for all nations. A threat to peace in any part of the world threatens the peace of all. [applause]

In the past, we were told that history was moving toward the strengthening of the state; in the past we were also told that history moved toward situations in which everything would be in the hands of private enterprise. Today, we live in a world that is tired of the abuses committed by both of them. It is a world that is frustrated with the selfish achievements obtained with the formulas used by the few, who took refuge in their ideological power to make messianic promises and who used their economic power to build (? worlds) of easy abundance.

We need support for the freedom and democracy of countries as well as for a new international coexistence. The world of the masses must prevail as well as that of the commoners, of the men and women capable of loving and suffering to find a shared hope in which equal opportunities are available for men and nations. We must be very creative and we must promote all steps taken to eliminate poverty. A government by the people means that the economy should be in their hands. To eliminate poverty means we should not be afraid of granting those equalities and opportunities.

The initiatives to reduce pressures that are exerted by the foreign debt over the economies of the debtor nations should be taken into consideration. The Brady Plan is great progress and we must continue to promote a dialogue capable of decreasing as soon as possible the deterioration suffered by our countries in the economic and social fields in this decade.

I am pleased to announce that yesterday in Washington, Costa Rica reached an agreement in principle to substantially reduce our foreign debt. I point this out as another example of a new spirit, the one that is possible to achieve with dialogue and mutual understanding of problems. The heart of Costa Ricans will be pleased to know that this new fruit of reason will allow for a greater growth of our economy. This agreement should also encourage other debtor countries to reach similar agreements.

Our development strategies can no longer ignore the fact that we must take care of and improve the environment. Ambition and carelessness has gone too far already. We have poisoned the air and we have allowed our cities to become noisy. We have polluted our water and we have allowed our forests to be depleted. We have justifiable fears of what may happen if the earth's temperature suffers an overall progressive increase. The destruction of the ozone layer creates risks for life on the planet. We must put an end to the extinction of our various biological species; we must put an end to soil erosion, and to the loss of forests. It is time for a new harmony. We must

seek the welfare of people by means of a development which will promote justice and the appropriate conservation of nature.

This is the only development capable of supporting the future of mankind. Acid rain is a problem which also requires attention but the lack of potable water for millions of men, women, and children also needs an urgent solution. No one should impose his own solution; we can find the solutions together to guarantee the achievement of our goals and the distribution of duties.

Dear friends, it is necessary to define a development for the sake of mankind. We must never again permit the betrayal of man's goals by the practices of corruption, poverty, tolerance of dictatorships, complacency toward terrorism, apathy in the face of violence, silence in the face of those who practice racism, or cowardice before those who violate human rights.

Victor Hugo said there is nothing stronger than an idea which comes at the right time. Men have always struggled for these ideas and we have been given a very special opportunity. This is an historic call we must all answer. We are forced to make a decision: Either we take refuge in yesterday's world and continue to be prisoners of its deeply-rooted interests and dogmas or we accept the commitment to create a new history for millions and millions of men.

Every enterprise must involve risks. It is useless to pretend that we will have all the guarantees of achieving a victory every time we take a different step. Nevertheless, the roads of the past failed to give us solutions to eradicate the hunger, sorrow, and oppression being suffered by millions and millions of human beings.

Costa Rica has assumed the political pledge to work for a new world and find new roads for the future, and our alliance advocates changes. We applaud the courage of those who have begun nuclear disarmament and the reduction of conventional weapons. We must strive to change the history of Central American wars and violence for a history of peace and freedom.

Thank you, thank you [repeats himself] for the support we have received from all of you in our efforts. Once more I ask you to help, through diplomacy, so that rifles are silenced and so that there may be dialogue because it is time for a change and we advocate that change. We advocate the strengthening of the inter-American political system in a scheme of regional diplomacy to tackle a common agenda.

Romulo Bethancourt, a visionary Venezuelan statesman, said 30 years ago that free nations should sponsor freedom and democracy by breaking political and commercial relations with authoritarian regimes. Mr Jose Figueres, a visionary Costa Rican statesman, dissolved the Costa Rican Army 40 years ago so that development and democracy could be achieved. [Applause]

Perhaps we will be able to tell Bethancourt and Figueres that the time has come to isolate the dictator and that we will do it together. The time for disarmament has come and we will work to achieve it. Bolivar dreamed of a united America 180 years ago. We will [word indistinct] world with Europe, and we will achieve an unprecedented political and economic unity; the Berlin wall must fall and there will be no nations with rich people and poor people, or with free and oppressed people.

[Words indistinct] market that will unite the U.S. and Canadian people. Others could possibly join that market, if the language barrier is overcome. We will not be left out of these changes. We do not want to become the followers of other nations' actions. We want to be, and we must be, part of the solution to our problems.

Perhaps we will also be able to tell Bolivar that there will be an America in which all men will always be free. Thank you. [applause]

OAS Secretary General Discusses Panama, Cuba

PA2710165289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1430 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares denied in San Jose today that the organization has failed in its attempts to solve the Panamanian crisis, and he blamed the parties involved for not reaching an agreement.

"I do not agree with those who say that the OAS has failed because we have provided options for both parties to speak," Baena Soares told ACAN-EFE. The OAS secretary general is currently in the Costa Rican capital as a guest of the hemispheric summit.

The Brazilian diplomat said the OAS created a commission (composed of himself and the foreign ministers of Ecuador, Guatemala, and Trinidad and Tobago) so that the parties involved could reach an agreement. He noted that "if they did not do so, it is not our fault."

The OAS mission visited Panama five times between June and August of this year after the 7 May elections were annulled. It was able to seat the government, the military, and the opposition at the negotiating table but the talks were unsuccessful.

Soares also reacted to the statements made by Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara, who is also in Costa Rica and who said that the OAS is a "corpse."

Soares told ACAN-EFE that if the OAS were a corpse, "I do not think a country like Canada would be willing to join the corpse mentioned by Endara."

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney also arrived in San Jose last night to attend the summit, and he will formally register his country as a member of the OAS in San Jose.

Soares does not believe the Panamanian crisis will lead to a "bloodbath," because he believes there is always room for negotiation.

"The foreign ministers mission still exists, and it all depends on the parties involved," Baena said.

As for the OAS General Assembly that will be held during the second week in November, for which Costa Rica has requested the inclusion of the Panamanian crisis on the agenda, Baena told ACAN-EFE that it will be discussed, but it is "still too early to say what may occur."

Moreover, Baena Soares said that the San Jose summmit "is a success because the gathering of so many presidents is a success in itself."

Regarding Cuba's inclusion in the OAS, requested by several governments of the continent, Baena said that even though it will not be on the agenda of the next assembly, "he did perceive a growing tendency by the Latin American governments in favor of including Cuba in the organization."

Panamanian Envoy Invited to Various Events

PA2710160089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1428 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Panamanian Ambassador to Costa Rica Dario Arosemena has been invited to lunch today with the leaders—including U.S. President George Bush—attending the presidential summit.

South American diplomats in San Jose told ACAN-EFE that Arosemena had also received an official invitation for the gala dinner that will be held tonight hosted by President Oscar Arias.

However, a few hours after the dinner invitation had been received, ambassadors were told the invitation was canceled because the National Theater, where the dinner will be held, can only accommodate the presidents and their official delegations. This was confirmed by various ambassadors who, like the Panamanian ambassador, accepted the explanation.

According to a Panamanian Embassy spokesman, Arosemena, who planned to travel to Panama on 26 October, postponed the trip until 28 October.

Meanwhile, the Panamanian Government published in three newspapers in San Jose an "official letter" addressed to the presidents attending the "summit." The letter conditions the holding of elections "with full guarantees" in Panama on the elimination of the "external factors currently preventing an independent decision by the Panamanian people."

Another part of the letter, signed by Provisional President Francisco Rodriguez—who was not invited to the summit—offers Panama as the possible "headquarters of a multilateral force against drug trafficking."

The Panamanian opposition, whose leader Guillermo Endara is in San Jose, is also publishing paid advertisements in the Costa Rican media accusing Panamanian "strongman" General Manuel Antonio Noriega of violating human rights.

"Noriega violates human rights with impunity. We ask the presidents attending the summit to support democratization efforts in Panama," an opposition advertisement reads, which is shown along with pictures of the main opposition leaders being beaten by forces connected to the regime a few days after the annulment of the elections on 7 May.

Honduran President Azcona Discusses Contras

PA2710180589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1638 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Honduran President Jose Azcona today said in Costa Rica that "the demobilization of the Nicaraguan contras does not depend on me," but on the mechanisms established within the framework of the regional peace agreements.

Azcona disclosed that he will meet in San Jose with his Nicaraguan counterpart, Daniel Ortega, to talk about "bilateral matters," but did not elaborate.

"The demobilization of the contras—agreed by the Central American presidents in August—is not going to be done by me, I am not going to delay it, the demobilization is up to or depends on the mechanisms (of the regional peace agreements)," he added.

Azcona, who arrived in San Jose today to attend the summit of hemispheric presidents, stressed that his government is "helping to implement mechanisms" for the demobilization of the anti-Sandinist armed resistance.

The Honduran president announced that, in addition to Ortega, he will meet in private with his Argentine counterpart, Carlos Menem, and with Nicaraguan opposition candidate Violeta Barrios de Chamorro.

Menem Calls for Consolidation of American Unity

PA2710183889 Paris AFP in Spanish 1623 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (AFP)—Argentine President Carlos Menem today called for the consolidation of "American unity" among the continent's southern, central, and northern areas to strenghten regional democracy. He also proposed the adoption of an electoral process similar to Nicaragua's to solve the Panamanian crisis.

Menem arrived in San Jose this morning a few minutes before Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega to participate in an American summit.

"There is still no democracy in certain places of our continent and we also notice a lack of a much needed economic balance, Menem said. He added that his government advocates a prompt solution to the Panamanian problem.

"We advocate a solution to the Panamanian solution in keeping with the OAS resolutions," Menem added.

In July, the OAS proposed the installment in Panama of a provisional government that would urgently call new presidential elections. A provisional government took over on 1 September, but elections have not yet been called.

"The same electoral process being implemented in Nicaragua could be adopted by Panama," he pointed out.

As for the summit's agenda, Menem said that "drugs, consolidation of American unity, lack of democracy in certain places, and economic balance are a few of the issues that concern not only us," but the Latin American and world peoples.

"Democracy is essential, but it is no longer essential to sign pacts or agreements to that effect; it is essential to practice democracy," the Argentine president said.

Smiling broadly, Menem, who is known to be very keen on sports, did not rule out the possibility of playing soccer or tennis with President Oscar Arias or driving a race car.

Bush, Ortega Hold 'Brief, Informal' Talk

PA2710220489 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2110 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 27 Oct (DPA) —The U.S. and Nicaraguan presidents, who are attending the summit of hemispheric heads of state in San Jose, today held a brief, informal talk on political topics related to the elimination of differences between their two nations.

Ortega and Bush met at Hotel Cariari in San Jose following the ceremonies to install the meeting of presidents to mark the 100 years of democracy in Costa Rica.

Ortega urged Bush to contribute to the strengthening of democracy in Nicaragua. "You have the capacity to solve the problems. You have managed to solve problems with the Soviets, and it would be easier for you to solve them with Nicaragua," Ortega remarked.

Bush answered: "It may be possible for Nicaragua to solve its problem." In addition, he recalled that they are attending a meeting on Costa Rica's 100 years of democracy.

Ortega insisted and told Bush: "The United States has to help strengthen democracy in Nicaragua."

The dialogue was broadcast by the state-owned station Voz de Nicaragua, but there was no expansion on it. Bush had said before leaving Washington that he would not talk with Ortega, and even though he has expressed an interest in talking with the U.S. President to discuss their differences, the Nicaraguan president had not demonstrated any optimism.

The United States has financed the so-called "contras," which have tried to topple the Sandinist revolutionary government for 8 years, and is currently helping the rightist opposition which is running in the elections against Ortega, who is the candidate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front.

Ortega Asks Help Toward Peace

PA2810140989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1210 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] President Daniel Ortega has had a brief meeting with his counterpart George Bush despite the U.S. President's attempts to avoid it.

Ortega, wearing an olive drab uniform and a red and black neckerchief tied to his neck, shook hands with President Bush in one of the halls of the Cariari Hotel during a walk with Argentine President Carlos Menem. Using Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto as interpreter, President Ortega told Bush that he was happy to greet him, to which the U.S. President responded: Likewise.

Ortega asked him about the possibility of speaking more at length about the two countries, but Bush evaded him. He reminded him that they were in a multilateral meeting and said that perhaps in the future they could hold bilateral talks.

The Sandinist leader said that the United States can contribute toward peace in Nicaragua. He noted that if a comparison was drawn between Nicaragua's problems and those of the USSR, it was easier to (?broach) Nicaragua's problem. Ortega stressed that the United States can contribute much toward strengthening Nicaragua's democracy. To this the U.S. President responded: It is possible that Nicaragua can resolve its own problem.

The Nicaraguan delegation was interested in prolonging the dialogue between the presidents, but a member of the U.S. committee suggested to Bush that he should go to his suite. Ortega, accompanied by the Argentine president, continued on his way.

More Bush, Ortega Meeting

PA2810040589 Paris AFP in Spanish 0159 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Report by AFP correspondent Enrique Guzman]

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (AFP)—The United States and Nicaragua today seemed to soften the battle they have been facing for over 7 years, according to the conciliatory attitudes of Presidents George Bush and Daniel Ortega which emerged today at Costa Rica's hemispheric summit.

Bush and Ortega talked briefly after the opening speeches in the same room where the summit was inaugurated.

A few minutes afterward, the picture of a "friendly" handshake circled the world as testimony of a possible U.S. opening toward a bilateral dialogue that Nicaragua has always requested.

But all Nicaraguan enthusiasm seemed to clash with the cool communique issued by the White House press services, which merely recognized the "friendly way" the handshake was made.

The communique added that at no time was there anything substantial discussed in the brief presidential talk.

Ortega and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto were prudent when commenting on the contact "at the summit," saying that it was only the "beginning."

D'Escoto said: "The meeting was correct, but brief. Further along we shall see the results, what comes out of this."

Ortega said: "This is a multilateral dialogue to discuss several topics. We came across President Bush. Neither he nor I sought this contact."

"Costa Rica is a meeting point and it would have been impossible for the U.S. and Nicaraguan presidents not talk to each other. It is fundamental that we talk. We have already talked. I would say we have begun to talk," Ortega added.

"But—he clarified—I have no illusions or any expectations. The United States has a tough policy and we will talk about this tomorrow."

But Ortega did not say exactly or clarify if "tomorrow" means an interview with Bush or a topic to be discussed with others.

According to D'Escoto, Ortega "told Bush that the United States could do much so that our electoral process continues correctly and peacefuly."

"I do not believe we can call anyone a winner following this brief dialogue. Let us speak of attaining peace, and sensibility, but I do not want to be too optimistic," the Nicaraguan foreign minister said after the meetings ended.

"It was a brief but appropriate contact," he repeated.

"No, I am not satisfied because it is not enough. We shall continue looking for ways for this to deepen," D'Escoto said.

"I am optimistic," he stressed when expressing very positive comments on his talks with Secretary of State James Baker.

Today, during the official luncheon for presidents and foreign ministers, Baker and D'Escoto lunched together. "I like Baker. This is the first time we have meet. He seemed to be a warm person. Very nice," D'Escoto added, but said that Baker made no comment whatsovever on Ortega's request to talk with Bush in greater depth.

He said, however, "it is feasible" that it happens here.

"Why not?" the minister exclaimed.

Ortega Wants In-Depth Talks

PA2810002189 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2335 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (DPA)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today reiterated in San Jose his desire "to talk in depth with U.S. President George Bush."

On leaving the place where all the heads of state visiting Costa Rica had eaten lunch, Ortega confirmed that he had had a first verbal exchange with President Bush in a hall of the Cariari Hotel, "but," he said, "I would like to analyze in depth the problems that exist between the two countries." Ortega said he told Bush: "You can cooperate to make the 25 February 1990 elections in Nicaragua a big success." A journalist asked Ortega if he considers himself a democratic president. Ortega, who is wearing his olive green uniform at the San Jose summit, stated: "Of course. I was elected on 4 November 1984, the same day that Mr Ronald Reagan was elected president of the United States. As far as I know, no one has any doubt about the democratic system in that country."

Ortega also noted: "The presence of Mrs Violeta Chamorro, my rival in the Nicaraguan elections, as an observer in this summit does not bother me."

Costan Rican President Comments on Summit

PA2810034389 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 0227 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Statement by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez at the National Theater in San Jose; broadcast in progress—live]

[Text] . . . never would have imagined it. I think the presidents visiting us today will never forget tonight. I hope it is the same tomorrow. What we are investing in these 2 days... [changes thought] If we were to spend the country's budget for the next 50 years in publicity, we would never have been so successful. Those who visit us will never forget this moment. This will live forever in the minds and hearts of those who visited us. The more than 1,500 newsmen who will transmit this joy to their countries will put Costa Rica on the world map. I think that the hospitality of our people, giving you this welcome, is priceless.

In addition, as a Costa Rican, I feel very proud of the respect and of the responsible, respectful, and kind manner in which the people of Costa Rica received you. I think this will always live in the hearts of those that visited us tonight. Today's meeting has really been

important. I feel very happy because the discussions were so frank and sincere—and hard. Although there were differing views, it is very beautiful to realize we can hold talks and that dialogue performs miracles, as I have always said. The truth is that this is a demonstration of (?hospitality) and of rationality. Through a dialogue, we can face direct problems and common challenges that make us stronger and less vulnerable. Dialogue can be successful in settling problems.

As a Latin American, I felt very proud to invite my colleagues of the continent, to hold talks with the United States and Canada, and to realize we can indeed establish a common agenda, which will reflect the spirit of this meeting, namely, the spirit of San Jose.

Bush Reportedly 'Imposed' 'Hot Issues'

PA2810045989 Paris AFP in Spanish 0333 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (AFP)—U.S. President George Bush has imposed a discussion on the hot issues of the situation in Panama and the democratization of Nicaragua during San Jose's hemispheric meeting, according to official sources.

During the sole work session, held today in the first part of the 2-day meeting, the 16 [number as received] participating heads of state spent over 3 hours reviewing the topics of democracy, development, foreign debt, deforestation, drugs, and disarmament. The United States managed to introduce the topics of the Panamanian crisis and Nicaragua's democratization.

Despite that, the participants, ranging from Costa Rican President Oscar Arias to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, described the meeting, which was held in a cordial climate, as "frank and constructive."

As scheduled, the presidents held an informal dialogue on the problems they deemed basic for the survival of democracy in the continent, and will not issue a final communique at the conclusion of the meeting at noon on Saturday, 28 October.

The meeting afforded a unique opportunity for Latin American leaders to convey their concerns to President Bush and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and to voice their frustrations over the difficulties in providing better living conditions for their peoples, Arias stated.

Arias and his Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto felt the meeting made it clear the continent cannot wait another 22 years to meet again, referring to the last hemispheric meeting held in Punta del Este, Uruguay.

Costa Rican Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Rivera told AFP the consensus was these meetings should be held more often, without mentioning dates, and that it was important for Latin America to take advantage of the political and economic integration process Europeans are going through right now.

Although Arias denied it, Ecuadorean President Rodrigo Borja admitted the topic of Panama was discussed, although in a oblique manner.

"We freely talked about consolidating democratic regimes, drug trafficking, drugs, and the coffee problem." On the coffee issue, he said, an agreement was reached to hold a meeting of Latin American producers to face the drop in the price of this product, although the declaration submitted by Colombia and Costa Rica was not approved.

The presidents will have a number of bilateral meetings on Saturday. At approximately 1030 (1630 GMT) they will participate in the inauguration of Democracy Square, in the middle of San Jose. There, Arias will close the summit dedicated to celebrate Costa Rica's first 100 years of democracy.

Argentine President Comments on Democratization

PA2810052389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0423 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Argentine President Carlos Menem said today that Latin American efforts to achieve the democratization of Nicaragua and Panama "are not a form of alignment with certain U.S. interests."

"Democracy is not the patrimony of the United States," Menem said in a press conference held in San Jose, Costa Rica, where he is attending a summit meeting of 17 democratically elected American heads of state.

The Argentine president said: "There is no kind of alignment under way here," but rather a demonstration that "we live in a world that is moving toward interdependence." He explained that "this does not imply dependence."

On the purpose of his visit to Nicaragua on 30 October, after attending the meeting in San Jose, Menem said that it is to "talk" with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega about the electoral process that the Nicaraguan people are carrying out.

He noted that Argentina has sent observers in order to closely observe that process and said that, in that vein, he will also meet on 28 October with Violeta Chamorro.

Menem described the results of the first day of the summit as "very good," "truly positive," and said "there was full agreement" with regard to the six points proposed by the host president, Oscar Arias, for the meeting's agenda.

The topics presented by the Costa Rican president are foreign debt, the drug traffic, deforestation, democracy, development, and disarmament.

Ortega Proposes 2 New Topics at Summit

PA2810050689 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0434 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra said during an event held at the Law School auditorium that he had proposed the topic of the contras' demobilization and the dialogue during the presidential summit. According to Ortega Saavedra these topics should be added to the other six topics being reviewed by the presidents during the summit because they are an important part of Nicaragua's democracy. The Nicaraguan president said that all the American presidents accepted his proposal in a positive way.

Canadian Prime Minister Mulroney Addresses Group

PA2810035089 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1803 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Speech by Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney during the hemispheric summit held at the Cariari Hotel in San Jose; first paragraph spoken in Spanish, with remainder of speech in English—live]

[Text] Messrs Presidents: We are gathered here today to celebrate 100 years in Costa Rica. This is a great moment in the history of your country and a (?tribute) to the solidarity of the Costa Rican people. It is an honor for Canada, and a pleasure for me, to be able to participate in this anniversary. I wish to convey cordial greetings and congratulations from the Canadian people. [applause]

We are here to celebrate the success of democracy, the idea that has (?proved) the genius of people the length and breadth of the Americas and around the world. Devotion to the beliefs of liberty and equality before the law of all men and all women is the bond that unites Canada and Costa Rica and all democracies. In a very special way, on behalf of all Canadians I want to thank President Arias and congratulate him, not only for his remarkable address today, but for his commitment to freedom and democracy during the summit. [applause]

Devotion in the belief of liberty and equality before the law is the bond that unites us all. For the first time in modern history, democracy prevails almost everywhere throughout our hemisphere. All but an unfortunate few of our neighbors are now democratic or will soon have elections to secure that path. It is vitally important that democracy become a universal and permament fact in our region. It is no less important that human rights be respected by all, because such respect for human rights defines the very essence, the very soul, of freedom.

Canada's commitment to these objectives is total and unswerving. We provide constant support when asked, and we reply. In this regard, we have endorsed the peace process, which you set in form, Mr President, and we would help in the design of the security verification mechanism at the United Nations is about to make a reality. [sentence as heard] We've also answered Nicaragua's request for assistance in the preparations of next February's elections.

The word of the Nicaraguan people must be given the opportunity to express itself in a completely fair and true election. [applause] And once the people of Nicaragua have truly spoken, their word must be respected inside Nicaragua and out. This is the most basic rule of democracy. This is the same rule that was so grossly violated in Panama last May. The Organization of American States tried brilliantly, but vainly, to resolve that tragic situation. Canada wholeheartedly supported the OAS initiative. And we will support others like it until the people of Panama finally have their democracy restored, because the tyranny of a few cannot long override the most profound aspiration for freedom of an entire people. [applause]

The virtues of democracy are being tested severely throughout Latin America. The serious economic crisis that has this region in its grip has resulted in a sustantial deterioration of standards of living and, in some quarters, diminishing faith in the benefits of democracy. I recognize that the heavy external debt burden in particular makes economic growth difficult to achieve. Last year, for example, developing countries worldwide remitted $50 billion more in principal and interest to the industrialized countries than they received in return in new money.

The benefits of democracy not yet found seem few and far between to young people who face the prospect of a lifetime of work only to pay off interest on a debt to financial institutions located in industrialized nations far away. [applause] And yet, and yet there is no magic wand that can erase this debt. Its solution can only come from patient, imaginative, and sustained effort on the part of borrowers and lenders. This effort needs to be discussed jointly, not in separate solitude, and I am pleased that we will have that opportunity here.

I believe that the single most important thing the governments of the industrialized countries can do to help in this process is to put their own economic houses in order to reduce benefits and curb spending and ensure that their economies grow and that their markets are open to developing countries and that interest rates come down. Sound economic policies in creditor countries will bring interest rates down and help substantially to relieve the debt burdens, particularly where they are amassed by foreign debtor countries and supported by debt rescheduling and innovative support by the World Bank and the IMF.

I applaud the courage of the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean that have implemented economic reforms, and I know that these are difficult and painful decisions. But there has been progress, and the signs are good. The Brady plan case-by-case approach is an important step forward, and the results in the case of Mexico are very encouraging. Earlier this week at the Commonwealth meeting in Kuala Lampur,

Jamaican Prime Minister Manley spoke profusively [as heard] about the need to develop a sensible agenda under a businesslike framework for a new North-South dialogue to deal with this question.

I told the prime minister, as I have previously informed other leaders, some of whom are here today, when we were at the Paris summit, that Canada will support an approach that dealt with this matter in a constructive and realistic way. We recognize that for some of the poorest countries the challenge of building their economies is extremely challenging. That is why even in the time of constrained resources we have decided to maintain our development assistance program in the countries of this region most in need.

Ultimately, growth and investment are the keys to economic development. Investment spurs economic growth and boosts productivity and enhances competitiveness and creates jobs. And the more competitive the economies are the more they benefit from the accelerating pace of growth and investments around the world. But that will happen only with an effective international trade and trading system. There has in fact been an increasing erosion of the principles of free trade under the pressure of chronic trade and fiscal imbalances, debt, currency volatility, and attempts at market domination. That is why a successful conclusion to the Uruguay round is so important to all trading nations, including many in this room who need more trade and better access to large industrialized markets if they are to create [words indistinct] and greater social justice at home. What is on the table at the Uruguay Round is nothing more or less than the future of a fair and productive world trading system.

I very much hope and expect that the world trading community will resolve all outstanding issues by the scheduled conclusion of the Uruguay Round next year. The vigorous contribution of Latin American countries to this round is absolutely vital. A successful conclusion of this round will, I believe, bring new economic growth to this entire region and allow its leaders to ensure greater authority and economic opportunity for all of its people, particularly the young people, throughout Latin America. [Words indistinct] limited success. [Passage indistinct in which Mulroney speaks in French for approximately 15 seconds]

At the same time, economic development—as necessary as it is to human dignity and social justice—must be environmentally sustainable if it is not to be self-defeating. Sustainable development requires the full cooperation of the entire international community. For example, carbon dioxide emission in my country and the destruction of the rain forests in the Amazon are really two sides of the same coin. The harsh climate and the vast geography of Canada create an inescapable demand for energy and the countries that profit [word indistinct] a rain forest need to see [words indistinct].

The challenge facing us all is to reconcile these competing demands in a way to ensure the long term survival of our planet and the well-being of its inhabitants. Cleaning up past mistakes is unavoidable, but for the industrialized and developing countries alike it is very, very costly. It absorbs precious resources which could be devoted instead to raising living standards and expanding social benefits, but the degradation of our environment would in that case continue unabated.

What is needed is a new environmental ethic that does not condemn development or growth or technology, but one that ensures growth in harmony with nature, an ethic that promotes prevention as well as cure; an ethic that allows for environmental sensitivity as well as for financial profitability in the decisionmaking process and that recognizes that we are all wealthy nations and not-so-wealthy nations—all on the same environmental boat together.

The new environmental ethic will be on the agenda of the 1992 United Nations conference on the environment. We welcome Brazil's offer to host this vital conference, and we look forward to working closely with all of our hemispheric partners to make this conference a success.

We are also willing to work closely with you on the terrible problem of drug abuse. This problem is destroying the social fabric of families and even society. It is threatening the stability of governmental systems and the rule of law. In Colombia particularly, the narco-terrorists have declared war—open war—not only against their own people and government but against large parts of the industrialized world. We in Canada salute the enormous courage of President Barco. Perhaps no other leader [applause], perhaps no other leader in the world today has put his personal security more squarely on the line to defend the interests of his people and the integrity of his nation.

We all must join with the government of President Barco to meet this challenge. We must form a strong alliance to combat the venal, and the corrupt, and the callous people who prey on our society and who seek to destroy our youth. Although the impact of the problem varies substantially from country to country, it is obviously one problem that no nation can solve on its own. But it is one that we can begin to solve by pulling together. Everyone must cooperate. Let us, the nations of the Americas, begin today and provide the leadership and work together to rid our region once and for all of this crippling plague on all of our society. [applause]

Mr President, interdependence is making us all partners in each other's burdens and participants in each other's prosperity, and architects of each other's dreams. Democracy, debt, sustainable development, drugs—these are issues on the agenda of all of the governments of this region. The OAS is the one regional organization that can bring all of the governments of the hemisphere together to deal with them. It can unify us in the pursuit of solutions to the problems that I think we have in common.

We realize that the OAS has its imperfections and failings. In fact, most organizations do. The United Nations, for example, has been severely criticized in the past, but few will deny its inherent value today. Canada is encouraged by the efforts made to revitalize and restructure the OAS, and we are prepared to contribute to that process in whatever useful way we can. Our government has concluded that the time has come for Canada to occupy the vacant chair at the OAS that has been reserved for us all of these years. [applause] On behalf of the Government and people of Canada, I am pleased to announce that I have instructed our permanent observer to the OAS formally to notify the secretary general that Canada is prepared to sign and ratify the charter of the organization. [Mulroney repeats preceding sentence in French] [applause] I hope, Mr Chairman...[applause, interrupting]. In Canada, this has to be said in both English and French to be official. [laughter]

I hope you will welcome us. In an age of interdependence, the well-being of the people of this hemisphere is indivisible. [sentence as heard] We realize that Canadians' rights will not be secure while the rights of others are denied; that Canadian prosperity will not be assured while the prosperity of others is [word indistinct]; that Canada's environment will not be safeguarded until the environment of others is protected; and that Canadian society will not free itself from the evil of drugs while others remain in its grip. [Mulroney repeats preceding sentence in French]

All of these issues, Mr Chairman, in all of them, hemispheric cooperation is integral—that Canada's interests and the OAS in many ways hold the key to that cooperation. Canada's presence here today signals a new departure in our relations with Latin America. We recognize that our interests are directly engaged here. We will no longer stand apart. Our decision to join the OAS symbolizes our determination to be full and constructive citizens of the Americas. Canada has over many decades tried to play as best we could a useful role in the (?councils) of the world. From the United Nations to the Commonwealth, from the French-speaking world to the [words indistinct], Canada has defended the principles of freedom and fairness, of equality and social justice. While our own record is not unblemished, Canada has stood strongly in the defense of human rights and personal dignity. And Canada, from the days of its very foundation, from the moments of its infancy, has promoted the need for all nations—all nations, big and small—to find the ways to live together in peace because only peace, only peace, brings hope to young children, serenity to nations, and justice to all mankind. [applause]

Panamanian Envoy Disturbed by Speeches

PA2810145289 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1335 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Dario Arosemena, Panamanian ambassador to Costa Rica, had lunch yesterday with the presidents participating in the American summit being held this weekend in this capital city and emerged visibly disturbed. Arosemena said that the speeches delivered at noon at the opening of the summit by host President Oscar Arias and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney were harsh toward Panama.

The diplomat was at the convention center of the Cariari Hotel where the 17 American democratically elected presidents are meeting. He was taken to the dining room by protocol members at the summit from which Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez was excluded.

Bush, Chamorro, Endara Attend Breakfast Together

PA2810144789 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1332 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] U.S. President George Bush is reportedly having breakfast at this moment with Costa Rican political leaders and with Nicaraguan opposition leader Violeta Chamorro and Panamanian Guillermo Endara, who are in this capital.

His conversations with Chamorro and Endara have great significance since Bush has exerted pressure here for free and just elections to be held in Nicaragua and for the governments of the continent to work harder to restore democracy in Panama and force the withdrawal of Panama Defense Forces Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

During the working sessions being held in this capital with 17 American presidents, Bush expressed his dismay over the little progress achieved in democratizing Panama. He arrived with his U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

U.S. Secretary Baker announced that the U.S. Government has declared Noriega a Cuban agent, which implies the extension of the U.S. embargo on the Caribbean island to 32 Panamanian enterprises in which Cuba has interests.

Colombia's Barco on Need for Coffee Agreement

PA2810144989 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1301 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Report via telephone from San Jose, Costa Rica, by Francisco Tulande and William Parra]

[Text] Following a day of tension, contacts, good intentions, drafting of documents, debates, and exchange of views on the need to return to the negotiating table in London in order to reach a consensus on quotas between coffee producers and consumers to prevent a further drop of coffee prices on the international market, Colombian President Virgilio Barco read the following communique:

[Begin recording] We had a very productive meeting. We have met with representatives of the countries present at the summit. I have had the opportunity to stress to them

the importance that the restoration of the international coffee agreement has for coffee- producing countries. As a Colombian, I am satisfied with the results.

We are all going to work together to develop points of agreement and to strengthen the unity of coffee- producing countries. We will hold a meeting of Latin American coffee-producing countries in the near future to harmonize our positions. This will be an important step toward restoring the agreeement. Thank you. [end recording]

Endara, Arias Calderon, Chamorro Comment

PA2810181689 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1642 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Comments by Panamanian opposition leaders Guillermo Endara and Ricardo Arias Calderon and Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, Nicaraguan presidential candidate for the National Opposition Union, to unidentified reporter in San Jose—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Here we have Mr Guillermo Endara, who will talk to Radio Reloj about this beautiful, civic democratic event held in Costa Rica.

[Endara] I am living in another fatherland. It is a country I have always considered to be my homeland. It is the fatherland of my dear Costa Rica. I live in a country next to Costa Rica and I feel as a Costa Rican in an event such as this, where democracy is celebrated. One hundred years of democracy are celebrated. We are also very grateful for the support given to us by our Costa Rican brothers. They have proven to be our brothers. I love you all.

[Reporter] Thank you very much Mr Endara. Mr Ricardo Arias Calderon, are you pleased with this reception by the people of Costa Rica?

[Arias] This has been marvelous. This is much more than a condemnation of Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega. It is support for the will of the Panamanian people, who went to the polls on 7 May and elected us president and vice president of the country.

[Reporter] Thank you very much Mr Arias Calderon. Now let us try to walk toward Mrs Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, who is also here. Mrs Chamorro do you have a message for our people?

[Chamorro] I currently have a Costa Rican flag in my hands because we want democracy such as this.

[Reporter] Nicaragua will win?

[Chamorro] Of course, on 25 February.

[Reporter] [words indistinct]

[Chamorro] Many things, they are worried. They are waiting for 25 February.

[Reporter] We have listened to comments by Endara, Arias Calderon, and Mrs Chamorro.

Endara, Chamorro on Meeting With Presidents

PA2810182089 Paris AFP in Spanish 1711 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (AFP)—After the Costa Rican summit Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara and Nicaraguan opposition leader Violeta de Chamorro described as "positive" the informal meeting they held this morning with the presidents of the United States, Argentina, El Salvador, and Honduras.

"All the presidents expressed solidarity with the Panamanian people in their struggle for democracy and freedom," Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara said at the end of a breakfast organized by Costa Rica's majority parties. The event, which was held at the Cariari Hotel, site of the summit, was attended by Presidents Bush, Menem, Cristiani, and Azcona; Panamanian opposition leaders Guillermo Endara and Ricardo Arias; Nicaraguan opposition leaders Violeta de Chamorro and Virgilio Godoy; and Costa Rican presidential candidates Rafael Angel Calderon and Carlos Manuel Castillo.

"President Bush reiterated his decision to continue pressuring for democracy and freedom in Panama," Endara said concerning the 30-minute breakfast in which all the participants spoke informally while standing.

Endara added that the Panamanian opposition expects from this meeting "new expressions of solidarity" with democracy in his country like the solidarity already shown by Costa Rica President Oscar Arias when he excluded from this summit Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez, "who is in the Presidency without receiving a single vote."

Violeta de Chamorro, presidential candidate of Nicaragua's National Opposition Union (UNO), also said she was pleased with the support she received from the presidents with whom she had breakfast. For some presidents, like Bush, the breakfast consisted of only a cup of black coffee. She said that during the conversation, she asked the presidents to send observers to the entire electoral process in Nicaragua so as to exert pressure to make sure that the 25 February elections will be free and fair.

Asked about President Daniel Ortega's 27 October announcement in San Jose that he will end the unilateral cease-fire, Chamorro replied that the reason for this is that Ortega "does not want democracy in Nicaragua, because he cannot forgive, and because he does not have a heart."

Meanwhile, UNO vice presidential candidate Virgilio Godoy cast doubt on the killing of 17 Sandinist soldiers by the contras on 21 October, an incident which reportedly led to Ortega's decision.

Arias Closes Summit at Democracy Plaza

PA2810192889 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1753 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Speech by Costa Rican President Oscar Arias closing the hemispheric summit from Democracy Plaza in San Jose; broadcast in progress—live]

[Text] ...it was a military garrison. Today it is a museum. Here is where reason prevailed over force. Here is where the tolerance of fearless people without weapons was born. Here we find the master landmark where the rifle borne on the shoulder became a book under the arm for all of our youth. [applause]

To receive our brothers of America here is to receive you in the heart of Costa Rica; it is to receive you with the open arms of a century-old democracy. In this plaza, which we inaugurate today, children will sing and poets will recite poems. Painters will exhibit their works, students will play, retired workers will rest, and boyfriends and girlfriends will kiss one another. [applause, cheers] Never will there be heard the echo of the footsteps of the boots of a soldier. [applause] Tanks will not pass, regiments will not march here, nor will combat planes fly in these skies. This plaza belongs to the history of American democracy. The Costa Rican people proudly offer it to the visiting presidents today, to the liberty for which they are struggling, to the peace to which they aspire. [applause, cheers]

We who are political leaders of more than 700 million men are gathered here. We have not come here to dedicate a plaza to satisfy our vanity. We have not come to inaugurate an obelisk to remind us of this meeting and to sign declarations that will be long forgotten in posterity. We have come here to proclaim a new spirit, to dedicate a plaza, which on its first day is already 100 years old. We have come here to liberate an attitude that is born, to proclaim fearlessly that we want to understand one another and work together. We will not continue to ignore that the world has changed. We do not want any more prisons of minorities. It does not matter if they hide behind the corruption of drugs, the force of weapons, the brutality of violence, or the cowardice of terrorism. We will build the fatherland of the democrats, the big fatherland of Bolivar, the fatherland of the countries whose liberties know no borders, the fatherland of the majorities who will never punish those who have different views. America hereafter will walk without fear of liberty.

In the meetings we held yesterday, we discussed topics that concern us. We will work together to bolster democracy, to increase development, to ease the foreign debt, to destroy drugs, to preserve the environment, and to accelerate the disarmament of all the countries of the continent. [applause] We want results and will be faithful to this agenda, the mandate of all of our people. These days, children and elders, teachers and workers demonstrate their joy at being free. We have received the visitors with great affection. We have shared with them our achievements and our frustrations. We still have pressing problems to resolve. There is still poverty in my country for which we have not found an answer. There is pain for which we have not been able to give relief.

Yesterday and today Costa Rica has told the world that it is necessary to dedicate more time and effort toward resolving the problems that affect us. We must also strive to strengthen those things with which we are satisfied. Costa Ricans, we have more happiness to share than tears to shed. The world knows this.

Someone once said, dear friends, that when projects are big, words must be few. These 100 years of liberty have been long and beautiful. The presidents and prime ministers who have accompanied us have generously granted us their presence. Costa Rica's love has been long and beautiful. Let us hear the rejoicing of liberty, let us hear free people in the streets and the countryside, on our centennial of democracy. Let us tell the youths of America that we not only dream that all men will be free someday, but also that we will be able to fulfill that sacred commitment here in the city of San Jose. [applause]

Costa Ricans, today in this plaza, built to render tribute to the liberty and democracy of America, remains the soul of 100 years of free men. Thank you all. [applause]

Summit Without Consensus

PA3010001689 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1915 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Report by Antonio Martinez]

[Text] San Jose, 28 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The meeting of 17 American presidents in San Jose, closed today by hosting President Oscar Arias, revolved around Panama, Nicaragua, coffee, drug trafficking, and North-South relations. But no consensus was achieved on any of these points for future actions.

Arias had proposed six topics for discussion—democracy, foreign debt, drugs, development, disarmament, and deforestation—and his guests talked about them for a few hours, informally, because their host had given up the initial intention of issuing a concluding joint declaration.

U.S. President George Bush availed himself of the summit to again censure his Nicaraguan counterpart, Daniel Ortega—whom he criticized for everything, even the fact that he arrived wearing a uniform—and Panama's "strong man" General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Ortega and Bush shook hands on Friday 27 October when they simultaneously arrived at the meeting. However, no detente was achieved in the deteriorated relations between the United States and Nicaragua.

President Ortega surprised everyone by announcing that he will not extend the cease-fire that had been maintained with the contras since March 1988 because, he said, the rebels have not respected the cease-fire.

The United States immediately criticized the decision—through Secretary of State James Baker—and termed it "a step backwards" in the Central American peace process.

According to Baker, Ortega's announcement is only "an excuse" to suspend the 25 February Nicaraguan elections.

The Sandinist leader, who abruptly left the summit this morning before its close, counterattacked this morning by saying that the United States does not have a say in Nicaraguan affairs.

Bush criticized today the fact that Ortega announced his decision in the middle of the summit: "I would have been insulted if I had been the host. It is an insult to the leaders who gathered there. I wonder what the hell I would do with a person who did something like that to me."

The U.S. President advised the contras not to respond to the Nicaraguan president's announcement with military actions, but to wait "and see how things work out."

He also warned Ortega that if he launches an offensive against the anti-Sandinist rebels "the equation will turn around 180 degrees."

Likewise, Bush insisted that Noriega must leave the Panama Defense Forces command and said that he asked his American counterparts attending the summit "not to recognize the guys whose turn has come up in Panama," referring to the government of President Francisco Rodriguez.

Referring to Nicaraguan and Panamanian opposition leaders Violeta Chamorro and Guillermo Endara, with whom he met this morning, the U.S. President said he was "amazed" by their "strength in the struggle for democracy."

Argentine President Carlos Menem said he had talked about sponsoring democratization in Panama and Arias asserted that "the time has come to isolate the dictator," but no new measures were adopted against the Panamanian regime or Gen Noriega at the summit.

Upon inaugurating the reunion on Friday 27 October, Arias asserted: "Whoever has dirtied his hands with corruption and drugs, whoever has stained his hands with blood, has no right to govern any people."

Even though Arias mentioned no names, Noriega knew Arias was talking about him so he said that Arias "has no morals to talk about Panama."

Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani said that coffee was the main reason for his trip to San Jose, and it was reported that the United States was willing to formally support a Latin American proposal to restore the export quota system, but the talks ended without a consensus.

One of the negotiators revealed to ACAN-EFE that Bush agreed to support the Latin American coffee producers' proposal in San Jose provided that they first reach an agreement among themselves—which did not occur.

Several Latin American countries had prepared a "draft" of the agreement but, according to official sources, the Brazilians (the world's most important coffee exporters) did not like the document.

Officials who attended the talks said to ACAN-EFE that Brazilian President Jose Sarney accepted participating in the summit, upon request from Colombian President Virgilio Barco, to "talk without an agenda" about the coffee market, but "he became annoyed" because he had not been told about the existence of a "preliminary agreement."

Costa Rica had prepared a document that proposed the return to the quota system, the suspension of which in July caused a collapse in the international coffee market which has caused many millions of dollars in losses in coffee-producing countries.

Colombia and Barco were lavishly praised and applauded on the drug trafficking issue, but the proposal issued by Colombia, Bolivia, and Peru for an "anti-drug summit" was not approved.

The only specific announcement of a step taken toward continental integration was the one issued by Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, who said that his country will join the OAS.

Arias feels satisfied with what he termed the "success" of the reunion despite the lack of specific results—which surprises no one, because Bush had said: "We will solve no problems in Costa Rica."

According to the host, the presidents' informal talks have been "enriching, constructive, and positive."

Arias Comments on Bush Reaction to Summit

PA2910200289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1718 GMT 29 Oct 89

[By Antonio Martinez]

[Text] San Jose, 29 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Costa Rican President Oscar Arias said today that his U.S. counterpart, George Bush, "is no longer the same" after having talked with 16 other leaders of the hemisphere at a summit held on 27 and 28 October in San Jose. The host president told ACAN-EFE that Bush "had never heard such clear and frank" explanations as the ones given by his Latin American colleagues on the regional foreign debt problem.

The Costa Rican president said that the atmosphere of the summit—from which no document was issued or

recorded—allowed Bush to hear what is not normally said in Washington during official visits or bilateral meetings.

"I believe that it is only now that Bush has truly understood what the debt problem is," the Costa Rican president added.

The summit host and Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani were together when ACAN-EFE spoke with them. They emphasized that the speech by their Brazilian counterpart, Jose Sarney, was one of the strongest and clearest ones that Bush heard in San Jose.

According to South American diplomatic sources, Sarney's words and his "firm" attitude impressed Bush, who later even asked Sarney if the presidents of the Group of Eight talked to each other in this direct and open manner. Sarney answered yes and invited Bush to join them "as one more" in their meetings.

They also said that Honduran President Jose Azcona delivered a strong and proud speech, in contrast to the speeches by other leaders, who, according to these sources, made "incredible genuflections" before Bush.

"Even Daniel Ortega (the Nicaraguan president) seemed scared when he shook hands with Bush," one ambassador accredited in San Jose told ACAN-EFE.

In his 28 October news conference, Bush himself made a reference to the Sarney speech at the summit during the closed-door meeting.

"I was not aware that President Sarney's frustration over the debt was so strong. He made a very strong and emotional call on the issue of the debt. I can understand him. We are trying to work with him," the U.S. President said.

"Things are improving, but I realize President Sarney's concern," Bush said, adding that "I can identify with him and we want to be useful."

The U.S. President added: "I had the opportunity to talk to him last night (Friday, 27 October), and I believe he is very pleased that we are here. I think he was very satisified with the fact we were here and not in the United States or Canada, neglecting our friends from this hemisphere."

Sarney told his colleagues that the days of abundant assistance from the rich countries are over; that the United States also has a very big deficit and cannot be thinking of very generous works; and that it is necessary, therefore, for all the countries of the hemisphere to cooperate on an equal basis in order to solve problems, the diplomatic sources explained.

According to the same sources, Honduran President Azcona also complained during the summit, in particular, that the "third class officials" of international financial organizations arrogantly try to impose economic measures on the Latin American countries.

The host president said, along with Cristiani, that the summit has turned out to be "much more important than previously thought," and this will become evident when the details of the conversations are disclosed and when the effects are seen.

The San Jose summit, to mark the centennial of Costa Rican democracy, gathered the presidents or prime ministers of the United States, Canada, El Salvador, Honduras, Belize, Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and The Bahamas.

Hemispheric Leaders Depart Summit for Home

Bush, Barco, Azcona, Borja Leave

PA2810212289

[Editorial Report] San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish at 1853 GMT on 28 October begins to carry a live report from the Juan Santamaria Airport, announcing that Colombian President Virgilio Barco and his entourage of approximately 30 persons are boarding a Colombian Air Force plane to return to Colombia.

At 1915 GMT the announcer reports that the U.S. limousine carrying President George Bush has arrived at the airstrip. "President Bush gets out of the limousine, raises his hands, waves goodbye, is applauded, and is followed by members of the committee onto the plane." The announcer says that the departure ceremony was very brief.

Paris AFP in Spanish at 1944 GMT carries a San Jose-datelined item reporting that Honduran President Jose Azcona left to return to his country at 1935 GMT after attending the hemispheric summit.

Another AFP San Jose-datelined report at 1946 GMT reports that "Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja also left San Jose on a private flight which took off at 1940 GMT. The report states that "Borja had his left foot in a cast and was walking slowly with the aid of crutches." It adds that "Borja suffered a torn ligament in his left leg while playing tennis this morning with Argentine President Carlos Menem."

Perez, Sanguinetti Depart

PA2910234989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0205 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] San Jose, 298 Oct (DPA)—Presidents Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela and Julio Maria Sanguinetti of Uruguay flew to Caracas today after taking part in the American Summit at San Jose.

Perez invited Sanguinetti to fly in his presidential plane to Caracas, where a Uruguayan plane awaits Sanguinetti to take him to Montevideo.

The same plane also carried Inter-American Development Bank President Enrique Iglesias, who will travel to Montevideo.

Costa Ricans Burn Ortega Photo

PA2810215689 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1713 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] There is no doubt that the Costa Rican people have expressed their feelings regarding the political situation in Panama and Nicaragua. We saw how Panamanian opposition leaders Guillermo Endara and Ricardo Arias Calderon were acclaimed and how they mingled with the Costa Rican people. A photograph of Daniel Ortega has just been burned. When someone raised the Nicaraguan president's picture, people immediately started booing and watched as Ortega's photo was burned.

This has been a demonstration of the Costa Rican people's feelings toward situations in neighboring countries with which they do not agree.

We hope that both the Panamanian and Nicaraguan conflicts do not get worse, and that they do not become a factor that will break Costa Rica's very old and traditional bonds of deep friendship with Panamanians and Nicaraguans. We hope that political problems remain within that sphere, and that the historical friendship between the peoples of Panama, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua continues as always.

Cuba

Castro Calls San Jose Summit 'Caricature'

FL2810134289 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1202 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro has described the hemispheric meeting of leaders in Costa Rica as a caricature. In remarks he made to Venezuelan television, Fidel said that President Bush does not want anything to be discussed there. He said that the meeting is nothing more than an armed show [preceding word in English] focusing around President Oscar Arias.

I know Arias, Fidel said, and when he speaks with me, it is in the most friendly manner. He does not act like it is a mortal sin, he said. Now he does me the honor of excluding me, Fidel added.

Fidel mentioned the convening of the meeting and said that democracy is the government of the people, for the people, and by the people, but not that of a small group of people for the oligarchy and by the oligarchy. Fidel said that there is no political system in Latin America that has more ties with the people than the Cuban system. He referred to his own management and said that he does not spend his time in only one office. The commander in chief said: I am on the street, in the factories, schools, hospitals, and research centers. Everyone knows me, Fidel stressed, and I am everyone's neighbor. He said that proof of the strength of Cuba's political system is the fact that the weapons are in the hands of the people, workers, peasants, and students.

Fidel's remarks were the first official reaction to the presidential meeting that concludes today. The Cuban media has reported extensively on this topic.

Havana Assesses 1st Day of Hemispheric Summit

FL2810150089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1206 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] The meeting of the continent's leaders began in Costa Rica with the presence of 16 of the more than 20 heads of state that were invited, without a concrete agenda, with ambiguities, and with the appearance of a detonator with no explosives next to the presidents.

The head of the U.S. Administration, George Bush, gave his Costa Rican counterpart, Oscar Arias, a gift consisting of the renegotiation of $1.8 billion of the more than $4 billion debt that Costa Rica owes.

During the 1st day of the meeting of the 16 heads of state in Costa Rica, the only agreements the participants reached were on supporting Colombia in its efforts against drug trafficking and on allowing Canada to move from being an observer to a full member of the OAS. Shortly after the inauguration of the regional president's meeting, the leaders from the United States and Nicaragua, George Bush and Daniel Ortega, discussed the electoral process in that Central American nation.

Prior to and after the inauguration of the meeting in Costa Rica, the leaders attending the meeting made important statements. Belizean Prime Minister George Price said Cuba's separation from the OAS is an injustice that must be corrected. Colombian President Virgilio Barco rejected U.S. pressure against Panama while his colleague Daniel Ortega from Nicaragua said that the unilateral cease-fire agreement will be suspended to save the elections and the people from contra attacks.

During the meeting of the continent's 16 heads of state, which will conclude today, Argentine President Carlos Menem was firm in saying that democracy is not the patrimony of the United States. For his part, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney called on the northern part of the continent to cooperate with the underdeveloped southern region.

In the meantime, U.S. President George Bush proclaimed himself the watchman of Latin America.

El Salvador

Cristiani Departs for Summit; Discusses Dialogue

PA2710210889 San Salvador TCS Television in Spanish 1215 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani left on 26 October in the afternoon for San Jose. The Salvadoran president will participate in the summit to be held in that Central American country marking the centennial of Costa Rica's democracy. The meeting will open today and end on Saturday, 28 August.

Cristiani said that his government will present a formal complaint at the meeting against the Nicaraguan Government of Sandinist Daniel Ortega because of his government's nonfulfillment of the peace agreements signed by the heads of state of the area.

[Begin Cristiani recording] We think it is necessary to denounce this because it is necessary for Nicaragua to fulfill its commitments and stop creating problems in the peace process. [end recording]

Cristiani will report his administration's readiness to establish peace through dialogue even though, he said, the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] maintains obstinate attitudes.

I think we can look for and find peace in El Salvador, the president said upon arrival on Costa Rican soil, where he was met by his counterpart Oscar Arias.

[Begin Cristiani recording] Any process of this kind is not going to be free of obstacles and we have found sometimes that it is extremely difficult to engage in dialogue with the FMLN, because it adopts a very stubborn position and again [word indistinct] problem in the process. However, we think that it is very difficult for them to walk out of the dialogue, and the fact that we have continued and agreed to hold a future meeting is positive and little by little.... [recording cut short]

The summit in Costa Rica will be attended by 19 American heads of state, some of the topics to be discussed are drug trafficking, the foreign debt, and the regional ecology.

Rosa Chavez Reports Honduran Raid at Border

PA2910233689 Paris AFP in Spanish 2032 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Oct (AFP)—The Salvadoran Catholic Church today reported that Honduran soldiers entered Salvadoran territory, threatened the population, beat several people, and burned peasants' homes.

Auxiliary San Salvador Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez said during his Sunday homily that the "outrages" perpetrated by the Honduran soldiers occurred recently in hamlets of the canton of Gualsimaca, in the jurisdiction of Arcatao, a village at the border between Honduras and El Salvador.

The prelate said a delegation of the Archbishopric's Legal Aid Office visited the place to confirm the report. The delegation saw a number of Honduran soldiers.

According to Rosa Chavez, the Honduran soldiers "tried to force the Salvadoran residents to leave the place, which the soldiers said is part of Honduran territory."

The bishop has also reported "abuse of authority" by Salvadoran military men, who tried to prevent the repatriation of 1600 Salvadoran refugees, who returned from their Mesa Grande, Honduras, camps to their places of origin in northern El Salvador 2 days ago.

Rosa Chavez added that the Salvadoran soldiers "also committed outrages against the people of the church" who participated in the refugees' repatriation. After living nearly 10 years in Honduran camps, where they had fled violence in El Salvador, these refugees have returned to take up where they had left off.

Approximately 30 religious people, most of them Americans, were sent back to Honduras from across the border because Salvadoran authorities banned their entry. In addition, six members of humanitarian organizations, who assisted in the repatriation, were detained by the Salvadoran soldiers and released 48 hours later.

Msgr Rosa Chavez called the government of President Alfredo Cristiani to carefully go over the way he handled the repatriation "paying special attention to the mistakes and outrages that occurred in the process."

Finally, Msgr Rosa Chavez decried the deaths of 14 people over the past week as the result of political violence. He said, however, that the "figure is relatively low" when compared with the escalation in violence that has shaken the country over the past few months.

Rosa Chavez expressed the hope that the Costa Rica summit, which has just concluded, would "bring some fresh air to the Salvadoran peace process" prior to the third dialogue between the rebels and President Cristiani, to be held in Caracas on 20-21 November.

"In this new dialogue, the two sides must do their best to respond with actions to the demands of a people who have already suffered too much," he said.

Nicaragua

President Ortega Comments on Summit, Bush

PA2910174389 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1640 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega in Rivas Department—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...I commented on the way the United States should treat the countries of Latin America, the Caribbean, and developing countries. I told all the presidents—and President Bush was listening—that President Bush said something upon arriving in Costa Rica;

specifically, that the United States had to treat Latin Americans as partners. Then I told them: I hold President Bush to his word to treat us as partners. To treat us as such means treating us with respect. To treat us as partners means respecting international law; supporting and respecting the agreements made by the Central American presidents on the contra demobilization; not promoting policies of trade embargos and of economic strangulation of the Nicaraguan people.

The embargo policy against the Nicaraguan people hurts the entire Nicaraguan society and all Nicaraguan sectors. To treat us with respect means not meddling in the electoral process and not continuing to help the counterrevolutionaries, who are murdering the people of Nicaragua.

I explained these things at length. This was a high-minded dialogue as [word indistinct]. I knew that before leaving the United States President Bush had been [words indistinct]. However, in Costa Rica [words indistinct]. When we met, we greeted each other with respect. Of course, he [words indistinct] with us in Nicaragua because he knows all Nicaragua wants... [changes thought] Nicaragua has made itself be respected. [applause, shouts]

During the meeting with all the presidents [words indistinct]. All the presidents discussed all the problems. The topics of the developing countries, the Central American region, and Nicaragua's problems came up. I said that we must not forget the Central American situation. There was a tendency to forget the problems of Central America. At the end, President Bush replied. He replied in a respectful tone.

But anyone would say that the United States is bankrupt now. Bush said that we must consider [passage indistinct]. He said the United States had a huge foreign debt, a huge internal deficit, and economic problems. His reply did not give any hope to the people of Latin America. [Words indistinct] In fact, someone could have said to him: Well, Mr President, since you are in such bad shape, take this peso to help you out. That is the impression one got from President Bush. We know full well... [station announcer interrupts and station returns to studios]

Ortega, Government Support Halt of Cease-Fire

Suspension Announced

PA2810124889 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1211 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government will not extend its unilateral cease-fire, because the measure has been used by the contras to assassinate people with impunity, and we must protect the lives of peasants, President Daniel Ortega announced in Costa Rica yesterday.

In front of a large crowd at the national university in that country, during a face-the-people meeting, the Sandinist leader said his government has the obligation of preserving democracy and guaranteeing the normal development of the election process.

Ortega said that Nicaraguans have repeatedly condemned the crimes committed by the contras, but can also use the whip to remove the evil from the temple, just as Christians do.

The Nicaraguan president said that his government has been extending the cease-fire since March 1988 as a demonstration of its commitment to peace and reconciliation, but in view of the increased activities conducted by the contras, it has no other option but to resort to its military forces to defeat the contras.

Ortega said that the Nicaraguan people are angry because the government had its hands tied for over a year and a half, however, after discussing the issue, he decided to end the unilateral cease-fire on 31 October.

The Sandinist leader explained that the suspension of the cease-fire does not violate any agreement because it was a sovereign decision made by the Nicaraguan Government.

President Returns, Comments

PA2810211889 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2010 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 28 Oct (DPA)—President Daniel Ortega returned to Managua today at 1245 from Costa Rica. Ortega said that President George Bush is willing to negotiate the demobilization of the "contras," but through the Latin American presidents.

Ortega was approached at the airport by reporters, to whom he described the presidents' summit in San Jose as a positive alternative, adding that he held bilateral meetings with several heads of state.

"The new element, [changes thought] after hearing President Bush's news conference in San Jose where he said he hopes that this decision (the suspension of the unilateral cease-fire), [sentence incomplete] will be better analyzed by the Nicaraguan people."

Ortega added that Bush said he had spoken with a few presidents who have influence over Daniel Ortega, because he [Bush] has none, and that he hopes that the problem will be resolved.

"I interpret this"—Ortega said—"as Bush's willingness—expressed amid very rhetorical statements—to negotiate the cease-fire and the contra's demobilization with the mediation of several Latin American presidents."

Ortega confirmed that he discussed the issue with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez and Costa Rican President Oscar Arias "who are willing to make every effort to work toward that goal," he said.

Regarding his announcement on 27 October in San Jose that he would suspend the cease-fire because of the activities carried out by the contras, who to date have

caused 1,370 casualties, among them 736 dead, Ortega said that the cease-fire expires on 31 October, and on that day the government will reveal its position.

Regarding his departure from San Jose, the president confirmed that he left the Costa Rican capital because the ceremonies marking Costa Rica's democratic centennial had already been held.

Carlos Guadamuz, director of the state's official radio station, who accompanied Ortega, said that in his statements President Bush was "very cautious because he was not specific when, in San Jose, he was asked his opinion about the cease-fire suspension. [no closing quote mark as received]

Guadamuz pointed out that Bush called for the negotiation of the "contras'" demobilization through indirect sources because, he told a reporter in San Jose, "he does not have influence over Daniel Ortega."

To Make Cease-Fire Position Known

PA2910191789 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1821 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 29 Oct (DPA)—President Daniel Ortega today confirmed that he has been in touch with Presidents Carlos Andres Perez of Venezuela, Oscar Arias of Costa Rica, and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to discuss the cease-fire in Nicaragua and to advise them that the Managua government will make known its position in this regard on 31 October.

Ortega made the statements in the town of Rivas, approximately 140 km south of Managua, where he inaugurated a school and held a meeting with local citizens. Ortega provided information on the actions of contra groups that—even though the government has maintained a cease-fire—have left 736 dead, 1,153 wounded, and 1,481 kidnapped.

The president said that during his visit to Costa Rica for the centennial of Costa Rica's democracy, he found individuals who are concerned about the situation in Nicaragua, but who "are not concerned about the deaths caused by the counterrevolution."

President Ortega confirmed that even Honduran President Jose Azcona told him that he wants the contras out of his country but that "the North Americans do not want them to leave."

During his stay in Costa Rica, Ortega announced that he will suspend the cease-fire to guarantee the electoral process in Nicaragua. He said the announcement elicited reactions, especially from U.S. President George Bush.

"With this measure that we have taken, we have been able to place the topic of the contras' demobilization on the Latin American agenda," Ortega said in Rivas.

The last day of the cease-fire will be 31 October, when the government will make known its position after consultations with other nations' leaders.

On 22 October President Ortega, Defense Minister General Humberto Ortega, and high-ranking Sandinist Army leaders discussed the situation created by the anti-Sandinists' military actions, and they discussed the adoption of the necessary measures to guarantee the electoral process.

Returning to Managua from the 28 October Costa Rica summit, Ortega said that in his view, from President Bush's statements, the U.S. President would be willing to negotiate the demobilization of the contras, but through the mediation of some Latin American presidents.

According to the Central American agreements the regional presidents signed in Tela, Honduras, the contras must be demobilized in December to return to normal life in Nicaragua and to participate in the 25 February 1990 electoral process.

Borge on End of Truce

PA2910233389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2100 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 29 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge said that once we put an end to our military truce, "not a single armed contra will remain, because they will be annihilated by our people should they refuse to lay down their arms."

The Sandinist leader said the Army will now have more possibilities of "definitely defeating" rebel groups that are operating in the Central, Northern, and Caribbean areas of Nicaragua.

"No more cease-fire; we will answer with fire those who want fire and will open our arms to those who want peace," Borge pointed out to a group of followers on 28 October in La Trinidad, Esteli, northern Nicaragua.

President Daniel Ortega recently met with Defense Minister Humberto Ortega and Interior Minister Tomas Borge to discuss an intensification of rebel attacks that have claimed dozens of lives over the past few weeks.

After this meeting, Ortega announced a review of the government's military policy to enable it to defend itself from such attacks, which, in his opinion, are designed to block the electoral process.

On 27 October in Costa Rica, the Sandinist ruler also announced the end of a unilateral military truce that began in March 1988.

Chief of Police Comments

PA3010145989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1245 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] The suspension of the unilateral cease-fire will ensure the safety of our peasants [words indistinct], which is the responsibility of the government, Interior Vice Minister Commander Rene Vivas has stated. Vivas, who is also the national chief of the Sandinist Police,

said the government should review the unilateral cease-fire, which the contras have used to impose terror among the rural population.

[Begin Vivas recording] [Words indistinct] a political decision which has demanded great efforts from the government to attain peace, to repatriate the contras in Honduras so they lay down their weapons [words indistinct]. The guarantees exist in Nicaragua to protect their lives, [words indistinct] their families. In the past few weeks and months, we have noticed there is an unawareness [words indistinct] the counterrevolution has continued the asssassinations, crimes, and terrorism they had been perpetrating in the past few years. Obviously, such a decision should be throughly reviewed.

We cannot permit the counterrevolutionaries to perpetrate crimes—of which the people are fully aware of—for the sake of peace, reconciliation, reunification of the Nicaraguan Government, and in order to allow them to join civic life in Nicaragua [words indistinct]. Such actions must be halted in a strong and clear manner. If the cease-fire is being [words indistinct] misunderstood and misused by the enemy, the government will obviously have to review it [words indistinct] in the next few days. In this case, we will have to adopt all measures to ensure the safety of all peasants and soldiers in our country. [end recording]

De Cuellar 'Deeply Concerned'

PA2910012089 Paris AFP in Spanish 2359 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 28 Oct (AFP)—UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar today said he was "deeply concerned" over the possibility that the armed conflict between contras and Sandinists might be resumed, a UN communique released in Managua said.

"This situation again underlines the need to initiate without any delay the verification of the security commitments according to Esquipulas II," said the high official, who was quoted in the communique by his spokesman, Francois Giulani.

On 27 October, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said in Costa Rica that he would suspend the cease-fire, in force since March 1988, because of the increasing contras' activities and to "guarantee the election process."

In his statement, Perez de Cuellar said: "In view of the danger inherent in a resumption of fighting in Nicaragua and the risk for the Nicaraguan election process, I hereby reiterate my firm wish that the sides be as moderate as necesary to restore the pacification and democratization process."

Opposition Says Ortega 'Offering Terrorism'

PA2910014589 Paris AFP in Spanish 2339 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 28 Oct (AFP)—The Nicaraguan opposition newspaper LA PRENSA said today that, with the announcement to lift the cease-fire in force in Nicaragua since March 1988, President Daniel Ortega "shows his terror by offering terrorism to frighten the opposition civic forces."

In a scathing editorial, the evening newspaper, owned by opposition presidential candidate Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, added: "Ortega is trying to check the civic wave of the National Opposition Unity [UNO] and frighten it into abandoning the election struggle."

On 27 October, Ortega dropped a ton of bricks on the hemispheric summit, held in San Jose with the presence of 16 heads of state of the continent, including U.S. President George Bush, by announcing he would cancel the unilateral cease-fire, in force since June.

In its frontline editorial, LA PRENSA said: "Ortega has failed in this move in which he mocked the atmosphere of peace and continental and world harmony that prevailed in San Jose."

For the paper, the Nicaraguan leader's stance "is equivalent to political terrorism." The paper also said: "All those childish tricks and antics, with Ortega dressed in a military uniform and with a red-and-black bandana in a meeting with true statesmen, only serve to encourage the Nicaraguan people's civic struggle."

Menem Changes Mind, To Arrive in Managua Tonight

PA3010004589 Paris AFP in Spanish 0011 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 29 oct (AFP)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega announced in Rivas today that he will meet with Argentine President Carlos Menem in Managua tonight to "talk" about the increase in military activities in Nicaragua.

Menem was expected in Managua on Monday morning for a 2-hour stopover on his way back to Argentina, following the summit of the Americas held in San Jose, Costa Rica.

Menem's arrival tonight "was not on the agenda," Ortega explained. The Nicaraguan president had to cut short a program to inaugurate a road in Rivas Department to return to the capital on time.

The earlier arrival of his guest did not seem to bother Ortega, who considered it "a good opportunity" to talk with his Argentine counterpart about "the complicated Nicaraguan situation."

Ortega disclosed that, with Menem, he will discuss "actions that Latin American governments can take vis-a-vis the United States and the United Nations so that the contras will not continue committing crimes."

The president also insisted on the need to cut U.S. financing to the rebels and the need "to comply with the program for the contra demobilization agreed upon by the Central American presidents."

During the events held in Rivas, Ortega reiterated that "the final decision" on the suspension of the cease-fire, in effect since March 1988, will be made on 31 October.

Concerning this, he stressed that his government would be willing to continue the cease-fire if the United States uses the financial aid approved for the rebels to implement the demobilization that must be implemented under UN supervision

'Not Authorized' To Mediate

PA3010010789 Paris AFP in Spanish 0036 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Oct (AFP)—Argentine President Carlos Menem tonight stated that "he is not authorized to mediate" in the problem that has arisen with the Nicaraguan Government decision to lift the cease-fire with the contras.

Prior to leaving Costa Rica—where he participated in the summit of leaders of this continent—for Nicaragua to meet with his colleague Daniel Ortega, Menem was interviewed by Argentine state-owned television. In this interview, the Argentine president expressed the concern "in all sectors of the political community—not only in Central America, but the Caribbean" caused by Ortega's decision.

In addition to denying that he will mediate in the conflict, Menem noted that he will talk with the Nicaraguan leader about "the democratization process which that dear country is experiencing."

However, he added, "we will see what can be done to overcome this situation. So far, things were going well in Nicaragua according to the reports we had received from our obsevers, who will return to Nicaragua in February." He disclosed that he will hold a news conference before and after he meets with Ortega.

Discuss Contras, Cease-Fire

PA3010144289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1303 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 30 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—President Daniel Ortega explained the "critical situation" in Nicaragua because of "contra" attacks to his Argentine colleague, Carlos Menem, on 29 October. He also informed Menem of his government's decision not to maintain the cease-fire it has honored for the past 19 months.

The Sandinist government leader explained the obstacles put in the way by the United States to impede the demobilization of more than 10,000 rebels that are in Honduras, as was agreed by the Central American presidents on 7 August.

The Argentine president arrived in Managua on 29 October from Costa Rica, where he participated in the summit of 17 American heads of government that ended on 28 October. Menem met with the Nicaraguan head of government for 2 hours and then returned to his country.

Ortega gave Menem a "full" explanation of the situation in his country as a result of the constant "contra" attacks that have left dozens dead in the past few weeks. He also told him of his decision—announced in San Jose on 27 October—not to extend the unilateral military truce he had decreed regarding the "contras."

Ortega said that Menem was very receptive to his explanations, and expressed his willingness "to contribute so that the Central American peace efforts will not deteriorate."

"I am satisfied with Menem's receptivity" to contribute to this effort, Ortega added, and he said that he had held similar conversations with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez during the Costa Rica summit.

The Sandinist leader said that "the first step toward resolving the situation has been taken with President Menem." Ortega made these statements when he arrived at the Managua airport, where the meeting with Menem was held. He was accompanied by Interior Minister Tomas Borge and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto.

He added that the Argentine president's attitude will be taken into account when his government decides on whether to extend or lift the cease-fire that has been in effect since March 1988. The Nicaraguan Government will announce this decision on 31 October.

Responding to reporters' questions, Ortega said that he expects President George Bush "to support the contra demobilization process and to contribute to finding ways to stop further deterioration of the Central American crisis."

"Bush has the ability and the means to get the peace plan to go forward and to demobilize the contras," as was agreed by the regional presidents, Ortega said.

In Tela, Honduras, the Central American presidents agreed to demobilize the anti-Sandinist forces before 8 December under the supervision of a commission directed by the OAS and UN secretary generals.

Ortega said "Everything will advance quickly if the United States is willing," and he added that Washington should invest the funds it has earmarked for the rebels to help with the rebels' demobilization.

Leaves Managua After Meeting

PA3010034989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0330 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] Managua, 29 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Argentine President Carlos Menem left Managua today and traveled to his country, following a 2-hour visit to Nicaragua where he met with his colleague Daniel Ortega.

The Argentine chief of state arrived in Managua at 1845 (0045 GMT) from Costa Rica, where he participated in the summit of 17 leaders of the Americas which ended in San Jose on Saturday.

Menem analyzed with Ortega the Nicaraguan military situation following an increase in contra military actions in several regions of Nicaragua which have left several dozen dead over the past few days.

The Sandinist leader and Interior Minister Tomas Borge bade farewell to the Argentine president at the airport.

Menem was accompanied by his wife Zulema, Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo, and Octavio Bardona, govenor of Mendoza.

Coverage of Coming National Elections

Minister Criticizes U.S. Aid

PA2710131089 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Oct 89

[Text] Mexico City—A Nicaraguan Opposition Union [UNO] victory will not be a victory of the opposition but rather a U.S. victory, Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge Martinez has said in Mexico City. Borge, who is in Mexico City to attend the 10th anniversary of the Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties, COPPPAL, said the $9 million in aid approved by the U.S. Congress for the Nicaraguan political parties opposing the Sandinist National Liberation Front is [words indistinct].

Borge added that although the Nicaraguan law permits this kind of aid, such aid is [words indistinct] because it expresses support to the adversaries of the revolution and backs with money the statements of President George Bush referring to his preferences and political options in Nicaragua.

The Sandinist interior minister said this aid establishes a dangerous precedent. I myself, for example, refuse to say who is my favorite candidate in Brazil, and the same for during the Argentine elections, Borge added. It is unacceptable for a foreign country to support an internal political candidate, he said. Borge added that when the $9 million in financial aid for the Nicaraguan opposition was approved, appearances or good manners in international politics were not kept up. We are [words indistinct] there cannot be any decent soul who would not protest this intervention.

First, they gave away (?rifles), Borge said, referring to the contras. They are now purchasing and giving away computers, vehicles, and technology for electoral propaganda. Referring to the contras, Borge said they are not refusing to die. Those who promoted the contras refuse to bury it. However, they are wrong because the contras are not like Lazarus. It is impossible to tell the contras: Arise and walk. The contras can no longer walk in any direction. The contras have been defeated in the political and in the military arenas, Borge added.

Poll Sees Chamorro Ahead

PA3010035889 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Mrs Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, who heads the National Opposition Union of Nicaragua, has the support of 36 percent of the registered voters, and Daniel Ortega, who is seeking reelection for the Sandinist ticket, follows her with 32 percent.

This information was provided by a poll conducted from 12 to 21 October by Inter-Disciplinary Development Advice Office, a Costa Rican firm.

The poll covered a broad geographic area of Nicaragua. It excluded, however, its Atlantic coast area, a lightly populated region.

The poll, which also considered the preferences of non-registered citizens, shows that if these preferences are added to the preferences of the registered citizens, the difference in favor of Mrs Violeta Chamorro is larger, with 40 percent of the people favoring her and 29 percent her rival.

The poll, which was financed by the advice office and supervised by Dr Carlos E. Benton, revealed that 76 percent of the people trust the votes will be secret, and 36 percent of the people believe that the ballots can be marked and the voters identified [figures as heard].

Borge: Elections To Be Clean

PA3010014789 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 18 Oct 89 pp 1, 5

[Text] Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge Martinez stated that the Nicaraguan people will show the world that Nicaragua begat an authentic democracy and that [in the upcoming elections] "we will honor the 10 years in which we have defended it." Borge made these statements during a formal ceremony to conmemorate the 10th MINT [Interior Ministry] anniversary that was held on the night of 17 October.

"We will show the world that we have and will continue to have a just, balanced, and transparent electoral process that has been tainted only by concealed, clandestine resources that have been deposited in a 'contingency account' to nourish the different groups that are disguised as carrier pigeons and bear innocent names such as Civic Way," said Cdr Tomas Borge at the ceremony. FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] Commanders Humberto Ortega, Bayardo Arce, Victor Tirado, and Acting President Sergio Ramirez also attended the ceremony.

As part of the celebration of Victorious October and to commemorate the 12th anniversary of the fall in combat of Commander Pedro Arauz Palacios, Borge posthumously bestowed the 10th Anniversary Medal to the MINT commanders, officers, noncomissioned officers, and soldiers who fell while fulfilling their duties.

During the same ceremony, which was held at the Olof Palme Convention Center, a plaque with the names of 430 martyrs of MINT who fell during these past 10 years was unveiled. "They will be here as long as Nicaragua exists, as long as we have the will to be better, as long as we and the coming generations continue to be forged with the same steel and the same honey," Borge said.

Concerning the resources which "groups posing as doves" are receiving, the minister said that "the tactic is the same; before, they created organizations to distribute dollars and reproduce Judas' picture; it is the same now, except that this time it is to distribute favors and engage in political proselytizing according to a strategy designed by foreign experts."

Then he emphasized that "below the bridge over this turbulent river dollars are sailing, increasing the purchase and sale of dirty, weak, or perhaps sad, consciences."

Adding that "for our part, we cannot supply pretexts for anyone to accuse us, and let none of us be a blot on this clean goal," Commander Borge pointed out that "this commitment of victory and ethical conduct that we are assuming in the framework of this glorious October celebration rekindles the fire of our spirits."

In addition, Borge recounted the past 10 years since the creation of the MINT, which became, from inception, a victim of a pharisaical and furious people, who reeked cruelty and teamed up for the murky purpose of casting doubt on an institution that was recognizable as a vital organ in the dissemination of revolutionary changes.

In this regard, he said that the MINT was created the way it had to be—as an organization to which the people entrust the most delicate and complex tasks.

He then said it is false that the counterrevolution sprang up as a result of our own errors, because of mistaken policies, or because of the economic crisis. "The counterrevolution emerged because we distributed land to the peasants, because we carried out the literacy campaign," he said.

He continued: From the viewpoint of the insurmountable contradictions, it was only natural to expect the United States to attempt to go backwards; the dislodged classes want to return to power and want us Nicaraguans to be ignorant. If it were at all possible, efforts would be made to erase from our minds the memory of our homeland and the roots of our ancestry.

"They tried to steal from us the national war, the anniversary of which they turned into a dull commemoration. Zeledon was barely mentioned and Sandino was portrayed as the leader of a gang of robbers. In school, we were told that Dario was a bohemian who recited about swans and sensual satyrs," Borge said.

He also said: It goes without saying that this country has triumphed, that we Nicaraguans are sovereign and self-governing, that our foreheads are alight with the pride of being independent. This is our fault, our greatest fault. "We are telling everyone, both high and low, that we will not beat our chests. We will not kneel down to ask forgiveness for the great sin of being free."

Before a large number of MINT and EPS [Sandinist People's Army] combatants, diplomats, and special guests, Borge said he is satisfied with the work of these 10 years and the fact that plans were fulfilled well ahead of schedule. "Brothers, we have been true to our schedule despite mistakes, despite everything," he said. The audience applauded.

Borge said that coexistence will have to be sought in earnest over the next 10 years. Efforts will have to be made for social coexistence in every geographical and human sector. "Meanwhile, our revolution and its instruments of power will have to be adapted to the new circumstances without detriment to principle."

After expressing his certainty that the principle that international law is not the law of the jungle will be developed over the next few years, Borge said Nicaragua desires to establish new relations with the United States, but without abuses, undeclared wars, economic blockades, state terrorism, and ambiguous words and deeds. The United States should accept the reality of Nicaragua's existence, just as the existence of a celestial body that shines by itself is accepted. "We want relations with the guarantee that Nicaragua will not become a military base to threaten the security of any country, including the United States, although this assertion might sound Kafkaesque.

He said further that the struggle of classes, the ethnic struggle, the struggle for the emancipation of women, and every other struggle will be expressed, without altering its purpose, in new and unexpected ways, which cannot exclude exasperation and violence, although roundtables will dominate.

Finally he said the people of the Americas and the world underline their determination to free themselves from foreign domination. They want to be free from the steel manacles represented by dogmas and schemes. They want free access to bread and procreation. Nicaragua does not want the people to suffer as we have suffered, Borge said.

RN Denies Sandinist Charges on Fighting

PA2810124289 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 25 Oct 89 p 41

[Press Communique No 5 issued by the Army of Nicaraguan Resistance in Tegucigalpa on 23 October]

[Text] The General Staff of the High Command of the Army of Nicaraguan Resistance (ERN) directs this communique to the Nicaraguan people, the international public, Central American presidents, and international press:

1. The Nicaraguan Resistance categorically denies the false propaganda of the Sandinist Army to the effect that

the ERN staged an ambush in which several members of the "Farabundo Marti" Battalion and the "German Pomares Ordonez" Battalion were killed in Military Region 5, in the El Rama zone, where the 54th Brigade and the Tactical Combat Group operate.

2. It is very important to report that information provided by the Nicaraguan civilian population indicates that on 22 October 1989 troops from the 54th Brigade's "Farabundo Marti" Battalion clashed with the German Pomares Ordonez Battalion, leaving a large number of casualties, including dead and wounded, on both sides.

3. International organizations and press agencies have been informed that the RN totally denies this false accusation, which it has disclaimed with the details already expressed. This proves that the entire campaign is false and fails to address the attacks our troops are subjected to.

4. Attacks such as these tend to be blamed on the RN, when our troops have never made the slightest appearance in areas under the responsibility of the 54th Brigade.

Given at the General Headquarters of the Nicaraguan Resistance on 23 October 1989.
General Staff
Army of the Nicaraguan Resistance

Ministry Reports More Attacks

PA2910063989 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 27 Oct 89 p 12

[Text] The Defense Ministry reported last night three attacks perpetrated by counterrevolutionary groups in areas of the Southern Atlantic Autonomous Region and Waslala, Matagalpa Department.

The official report stated that a Sandinist People's Army [EPS] company was attacked on 25 October at Cano La Bijagua, northwest of the Jose Benito Escobar neighborhood, where a mercenary was killed.

That same day another group of contras attacked another EPS company at Mahogany Creek, northwest of the Jose Benito Escobar neighborhood. Four counterrevolutionaries were killed, and four AK-47 rifles and four backpacks were seized.

The Defense Ministry bulletin also reported another attack on EPS forces at Las Minas, southwest of Waslala, where another mercenary was killed.

Top Contra Leader Accepts Amnesty in Rama

PA2910062689 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Oct 89 pp 1, 4

[Report by Tatiano Rothschuh]

[Text] Rama, Region 5—One of the highest ranking contra leaders who operated in Region 5, the commander of the disbanded "Masaya" task force known as "El Chileno," surrendered in Rama, accepting the amnesty law along with eight members of that force, including a group leader whose pseudonym is "Jairo."

Orlando Barrera Alaniz, alias El Chileno, upon surrendering on 26 October to authorities in that zone after being a counterrevolutionary for 6 years, disclosed that on 23 October he had his final contact with "Cain Dos," who leads the contras from Honduras, and who insisted that "we should remain in the operation zones and at all costs make the peasants vote for UNO [National Opposition Unity], and if they resist we could threaten them with death."

According to the former chief, those were the instructions the contras received from Johnny and Cain Dos, upon the latter's return from Honduras. They told us that we "should support Dona Violeta, and informed us that she is our candidate." El Chileno added, "I personaly did not comply because I was becoming convinced that the war was not yielding any results, it is all over."

El Chileno also disclosed that through reports from other contras he was informed of secret meetings between ranking contra leaders and members of the UNO board of directors, citing a place in the El Jobo region north of Santo Domingo de Chontales. He said he does not know what is discussed there, but they are meetings to coordinate the actions that the "commandos" must carry out during the electoral process.

El Chileno also said that to develop the UNO campaign among the peasants, there are politicians from Honduras in each contra group. These politicians are trained in Honduras to "do political work with the peasants."

The treason of the ranking leaders from the contra hierarchy who abandoned the fighters or still want to "give us orders from abroad as they always did," and the distribution of the dollars they get from the U.S. administration among the big wigs, in addition to contradictions among the leaders who operate in the region's interior, months ago aroused in El Chileno a desperate desire to abandon what he now describes as the "unjust guerrillas."

El Chileno said that there are few contras operating in groups that range from 10, 20, 15 and up to 50 fighters, and "they have stood their ground because during the contacts we have had with the leaders who are in Honduras they have told us: there is always military aid. However, I have come to understand that it is a policy of deception so that we will keep on playing their game."

He pointed to "Ramiro" as one of the leaders who is outstanding for his criminality. "Ramiro operates north of Santo Domingo, where he pressures peasants to vote for Violeta. El Chileno had many arguments with "Ramiro" and "Johnny," because he demanded to know why they stole dollars from the commandoes. " [no opening quote marks as published]

The former leader says he doubts if the UNO can win the elections because, he points out, there are people like

Alfredo Cesar in that coalition "who was one of those who gave us instructions from abroad and who kept money. It is not strange for them to fight among themselves over money."

El Chileno added that he also doubts that the UNO is capable of fulfiling a government program that will benefit all the people; "maybe for the big wigs, not for the poor (charrula) people." He added "my thoughts right now are not for any party; I want to live in peace."

When asked his opinion about the possibility of suspending the cease-fire, which the government is considering, El Chileno said "let it be suspended, that would force the "commandos" to define themselves, to state if they will remain or go to Honduras, or if they want to die unjustly." He took advantage of the moment to tell others "to do what I did, to return to their homes."

El Chileno was hired in Pantasma, Jinotega, on 5 May 1983 by a leader called "Microbio," who has already been killed. El Chileno said he was convinced that "we would win."

El Chileno surrendered, as the entire group did, with his full equipment: a U.S.- made AR - 15 rifle, two radio sets, sidearms, knapsacks, blankets, and other supplies. These are the names of the nine rebels who surrendered, in addition to El Chileno. Pedro Jose Valdivia, alias "Jairo," of Matagalpa, who was a leader; Juan Gabriel Pineda, alias "Trueno," of Chinandega; Jose Francisco Alaniz, alias "Oscar," of Jinotega; Daniel Antonio Garcia, alias "Tono," of Boaco; Santos Valdivia Herrera, of Matagalpa, and Martha Liliam Cruz Urbina, Liliam Maria Gaitan Rodriguez, and Nuria Urbina Amador.

Contras Suffer 40 Casualties in Matagalpa

PA2810135389 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1217 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] A large group of contras that infiltrated from Honduras on 27 October sustained 40 casualties—dead, wounded and captured—when it attempted to attack the MINT [Interior Ministry] Filemon Rivera Battalion.

A contra group obstructed the voter registration process in (Sais) Matiwas, Matagalpa Department, on 22 October, openly supporting the rightist alliance UNO [National Opposition Union].

Contra casualties include 10 dead; the rest were wounded or captured. From the traces left behind as they fled, it is believed that many were seriously wounded.

The contra group was headed by commander Taolamba, who took advantage of the government's unilateral cease-fire to sow terror among the peasant population in the area. The Sandinist forces had been ordered not to carry out offensive operations.

A few hours later, at 1100, another contra group headed by Caiman clashed with troops of the Sandinist People's Army in Sarawasa, south of San Rafael del Norte, Jinotega Department, sustaining 2 dead and 1 wounded.

The government will end its unilateral cease-fire on 1 November, when the Armed Forces will carry out the necessary operations to check and end contra activities.

Incursion of 400 Contras Reported From Honduras

PA2810130989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1216 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Commander Cristian Pichardo, Interior Ministry delegate in the 1st Region, has reported the incursion of about 400 contras into Nueva Segovia Department from Honduras. The contras entered the country through La Boa and Wiwili. The group led by (Celestino Bolivar), [word indistinct], Victorio, Pantera, and (Caballito) conducted terrorist actions against the civilian population, Pichardo said.

He added that the contra leaders do not carry out military activities, but are conducting proselytizing activities in favor of the rightist coalition, UNO [National Opposition Union], and are threatening the people with death.

Pichardo said that last Saturday many of the contras went to Santa Cruz and Espinal dressed in civilian clothes and tried to conduct demonstrations in favor of UNO. They assassinated two peasants and kidnapped four others.

Mercenary groups distribute leaflets asking people to boycott production activities and exert pressure against people who do not support the UNO candidate.

Defense Ministry Reports 5 Contras Killed

PA2710180789 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1209 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Five counterrevolutionaries have been killed in clashes with Sandinist People's Army [EPS] troops in southern Nicaragua, according to a Defense Ministry report.

The report says that a contra was killed during an attack on EPS troops near the Jose Benito Escobar neighborhood in (Cano la Nicaragua), located in the southern Atlantic area. In the same region, four mercenaries were killed when they attacked Army troops.

Daniel Ortega's Plane Involved in Accident

JN2910183889 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 27 Oct 89 pp 1, 23

[Text] Informed gulf sources have said that the plane of Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega had a serious accident while landing at the Bahrain airport last week. The accident could have cost the president, his companions, and the crew their lives.

In an exclusive statement to AL-WATAN, these sources said that a Boeing airplane parked on the tarmac in Manama Airport moved unexpectedly while the GDR Interflug plane carrying the Nicaraguan president from Kuwait was landing on the runway. Some of these informed sources asserted that the incident is shrouded in mystery.

The sources confirmed that the GDR plane was seriously damaged by the crash, particularly in one of its wings, and this made it unsuitable to carry Ortega from Manama to Berlin. The Nicaraguan president had to ask for a replacement plane from the GDR authorities. However, the Bahraini amir, Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah, offered his private plane to Ortega so that he could travel to Berlin.

The sources pointed out that Ortega's visit to the region aimed to raise $250 million to purchase urgent foodstuffs and medical supplies for the Nicaraguan people, in view of the difficult circumstances caused by the war and the conflicts in that country.

Qatar offered $4 million, while Bahrain promised to extend aid after the Nicaraguan election results are known. Kuwait promised to study the matter and make a decision in the next few days.

France Gives Financial Support for Elections

PA2710140089 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Oct 89 p 12

[Text] The French Government, in response to a request from the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE) and in support of the Nicaraguan electoral process, has decided to provide approximately 4.5 million francs, about $700,000, worth of financing.

The French Government has said its financial support should be used for technical equipment that the CSE needs to hold the 1990 elections.

A note from the French Embassy in Nicaragua says that of this contribution 3.5 million francs will be used for repairs on the "Eltex Alpha" telex central.

This will include the cost of 50 telex machines plus the technical assistance needed for their installation. Crating, transportation, and insurance are included.

Twenty facsimile machines with all required technical assistance, plus crating, transportation, and insurance costs, for a total of 1 million francs, will constitute the second part of the aid package.

Panama

Claims of U.S. 'Aggression' To Go Before OAS

PA2810030889 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2331 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Statement made by Provisional Vice President Carlos Ozores on 27 October; place not given—recorded]

[Text] Vice President Carlos Ozores said today that Panama will reiterate its charges of U.S. aggression at the next meeting of the OAS.

[Begin Ozores recording] The topic of Panama is indeed included on the agenda. Initially this was requested by the Costa Rican delegation. However, there was a debate and Panama voted in favor of the inclusion of the topic as long as the topic of Panama in the international arena was also included. In other words, Panama's position was that it is not opposed to a discussion of Panama as a topic, but, since noninterference in domestic affairs is a sacred OAS principle, Panama voted in favor of the inclusion of the topic so that it can make a broad presentation regarding the U.S. aggression to which we are subject—not just diplomatic aggression, but an increasingly harsh economic aggression—and the threat of the use of force. Therefore, Panama is willing to have the topic of Panama broadly discussed if there is no discussion of its internal problems, which must be resolved exclusively among Panamanians. [end recording]

U.S. Military Accused of 'Sabotage Attempt'

PA2810003589 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2346 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] U.S. military units [unidades] in Zodiac assault boats carried out a sabotage attempt this morning at Pier 20 in Balboa, territory under Panamanian jurisdiction that is classified as a port area.

A total of seven U.S. Army units [unidades] with diving equipment carried out a series of activities that are outside the provisions of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, without having coordinated these actions with the DEPAT [Panama Treaty Affairs Executive Directorate] or the port and railroad committee.

This is another in the long list of U.S. actions that violate the canal treaties. The new act of arrogance hindered service activities that are extended to ships at this pier, such as the provision of water and fuel, among other things.

Coverage of Comments on Presidential Summit

Noriega Rejects Arias Speech

PA2710215789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2115 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], said today that Costa Rican President Oscar Arias "does not have the morals to talk about Panama," in response to Arias' speech this morning at the American presidents' "summit."

"When the Tico [Costa Rican] people come to know Oscar Arias, they will reject him," Noriega added in brief statements to ACAN-EFE at a local hotel near Panama City, where Panama's Latin American ambassadors are meeting.

In his "American summit" inaugural speech, Arias said that "the time has come to isolate the dictator." The meeting began today in Costa Rica. The Panamanian Government has been excluded.

When asked about this exclusion, Noriega said: "That is up to him and his own conscience," alluding to the Costa Rican president.

The "summit," which will conclude on 28 October and in which 17 American presidents are participating, among them U.S. President George Bush, was preceded by harsh condemnations of the Panamanian regime and Gen Noriega. Top opposition leader Guillermo Endara, who is attending the "summit" as a "special guest," said on 26 October that "Noriega will only leave power in wooden pajamas," (coffin).

FDP Spokesman Major Edgardo Lopez Grimaldo, who was with Gen Noriega, added that "Bush cannot demand democracy when he is subjecting us to a totally anti-democratic aggression." Lopez Grimaldo compared the U.S."aggression" against Panama to a "massacre equal to the great massacre carried out during World War II by Hitler."

Panama's pro-government press described the "summit" in Costa Rica as a "plot" aimed at "preparing Noriega's murder."

Government and Justice Minister Renato Pereira yesterday presented charges of "abetting crime" against Endara because of the statements he made in Costa Rica, and some observers believe that the opposition leader may be detained on Monday when he returns to Panama.

Rodriguez' Letter Published

PA2710185589 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 27 Oct 89 pp 1, 10

["Text of open letter" from Provisional President Francisco Rodriguez to the Latin American presidents meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica—dated 27 October]

[Text] Open letter to the presidents of Latin America:

Gentlemen:

I am honored to address you and send you my best wishes for the success of the discussions you begin today, hoping they will effectively contribute to pointing out paths leading to the solution of common problems that are very serious and that need to be included in the agenda of an international political debate.

The provisional government that I preside over has been carefully following the recent efforts made in view of the evidence that the trafficking and illegal use of drugs represent a terrible threat for mankind and the stability of the human societies formed in national states.

In fact, criminal organizations with frightening power have emerged in the shadow of governments, either by tolerance or complicity, by powerlessness or neglect. These organizations do not respect any laws or moral principles. In addition, they have established a scheme of corruption, never before seen in history, that goes beyond the nations' borders.

I feel it is advisable on this occasion to reiterate the offer I made at the 44th UN General Assembly, to the effect that Panama would gladly accept serving as a site and center of operations for a multinational force against narcotics trafficking that will guarantee respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations. This guarantee is necessary due to the problems of narcotics trafficking that are identified more with the projection of schemes of power than with a conscientious concern for finding solutions.

On the other hand, the discussion of topics such as democracy and human rights in a meeting of such influential and important people might perhaps provide the opportunity of considering the possibility of another threat to the peace and stability of nations, particularly to those which are far behind in economic and social development.

Our countries must solve very harsh situations concerning the foreign debt and the position of each one within the world economy. Naturally, our programs must include these priorities, but complying with them in peace and democracy cannot be conceived of at the cost of sacrificing the needs of the vast majority—health, education, food, employment, spiritual fulfillment, and political virtue.

The hegemonistic conflicts seem to have deferred the true challenge of mankind, which is the struggle for generating acceptable levels of well-being for all peoples, respecting one another and working together. For the peoples of the Third World, the hopes of a better future will become a reality when the powers discover there will be greater benefits for their peoples if they accept the existence of different social regimes, and if it is understood that people produce more wealth as free nations than as colonies or regimes controlled by a foreign power under another name.

In view of the fact that the proposed goal is a conglomerate of democratic nations in cordial coexistence, the first concerted efforts should seek to eliminate the foreign factors currently preventing the free determination of the Panamanian people. However, this commitment also compels others who claim to be interested in promoting democratic government to stop all forms of meddling and destabilization in our country.

It is incomprehensible to speak about a problem of democracy in Panama without mentioning the merciless economic, political, and diplomatic aggression that the United States has launched against us, and this is without mentioning the permament harassment by the U.S. Armed Forces in our territory.

Besides, the Torrijos-Carter treaties prohibit intervention and meddling by U.S. civilian or military elements in the internal affairs of Panama, and U.S. laws allegedly prohibit such actions.

This is a reality that no one can deny and that is the explanation why some 20 U.S. military men have been killed in accidents that have taken place in Panama while carrying out intimidation maneuvers that also violate U.S. domestic laws.

We are pursuing the establishment of a hemispheric brotherhood with equal conditions in the community of nations. We truly want to put an end to all vestiges of control by a foreign power. Considering this, the first thing we question is whether it is legitimate for one or more nations to try to have the exclusive power of defining, countersigning, or determining what democracy is.

Any country which tries to impose an outlook, or its own version of democracy, is motivated by a neocolonialist control scheme, because this is not the way to form the institutional life of a people. The people themselves, without any foreign intervention, are the ones who should determine what the best way is to govern themselves, and this determination can only lead to a stable democracy that results from its own evolution. A country's style of democracy must result from the people. The development and progress of our nations will only be able to accomodate to our wishes when colonialism ends.

The backwardness of the Americas is the result of solid democracies not being able to separate themselves from the hindering influence of neocolonialist control.

We are clinging to full liberation. We Panamanians are paying a very high price, but we continue to struggle without feeling any rancor. We have much to offer, and in truth our geographic location has been considered the pivot of hemispheric control. However, it can also serve as a bridge of confluence, with great power to influence the development of Latin America and the Caribbean, and of its link with a world economy reoriented toward the progress of all the people that make it up, with a more just distribution of the results of the common effort. You may rest assured that in this path you will always find a Panama that is a valuable and sure ally.

I avail myself of this letter to confirm the willingness of my government to strengthen the ties of friendship with all nations, and I send you my highest consideration.
Panama, 27 October 1989
Franciso A. Rodriguez P., Provisional President of the Republic of Panama

Foreign Minister Views Gathering

PA2710173789 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 27 Oct 89 pp 1, 18

[Article by Roberto Rodriguez]

[Text] Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam has criticized and strongly condemned the San Jose summit, saying it is a hostile operation against Panama. He said the U.S. Government is taking advantage of the meeting to promote its political and diplomatic aggression against Panama.

In exclusive statements made to MATUTINO, Kam said that President George Bush has disregarded the agenda proposed by the host country (Costa Rica) because it intends to impose its own agenda, which only has two points: to discredit Panama and Nicaragua.

Kam pointed out that the U.S. Administration is unscrupulously exerting pressure, and is forcing the participants in the summit to support his new "terrorist" policy against Panama and to "give their blessing to his plans to assassinate Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega."

"We call on the presidents in San Jose to reject that plot," the Panamanian foreign minister said. He added that if this objective is rejected, the presidents would not be accomplices of a crime that the United States intends to perpetrate in the name of democracy.

The foreign minister also talked about the objectives of the meeting called the six d's (democracy, debt, deforestation, drugs, etc), but he said the most important "d" remains to be discussed: decolonization.

"It is necessary for political, economic, cultural, information, and mental decolonization," Kam said. He added that if this is achieved, the presidents of Latin America and the Caribbean could exercise their freedom of judgment independently without any ties or subordination to the empire's orders.

Finally, he said that the U.S. Government has turned the San Jose summit into a platform to launch a new campaign to isolate Panama, and to promote multilateral sanctions against Panama, which could be approved at the OAS General Assembly scheduled to be held in Washington in November.

PRD Accuses Presidents

PA2910023889 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2312 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 28 Oct (DPA)—The Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], the main political force of the Panamanian Government, today accused presidents Oscar Arias, Carlos Andres Perez, Alan Garcia, and Michael Manley, of Costa Rica, Venezuela, Peru, and Jamaica, respectively, of "violating the principles of self-determination and nonintervention and of being U.S. pawns."

A resolution issued today by the governing party states that these presidents twist the facts and misinform their people about the Panamanian struggle and hide the canal treaty violations by the Bush administration, as well as its true interests.

The PRD resolution also states that Arias, Perez, Garcia, and Manley are intervening in Panamanian affairs while

they "shamefully" say nothing about "the abuses being committed by really tyrannical regimes backed by the United States."

The PRD also announced that a strategy is being designed to denounce at international forums the Bush plot to assassinate General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Coverage of Controversy on Endara Remarks

Authorities To Summon Leader

PA2710181589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1638 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 27 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Guillermo Endara, the main Panamanian opposition leader, might be arrested when he returns next week to Panama because of some statements he made in Costa Rica. The Panamanian Government has described his statements as "abetting murder."

In Costa Rica—where he was invited to attend the summit of American presidents—Endara said, among other things, that General Manuel Antonio Noriega "would only leave power in wooden pajamas" (i.e. in a coffin).

Gabriel Carreira, secretary for the attorney general, told ACAN-EFE that "Endara will be summoned to testify and explain his statements." When asked about the possibility of arresting Endara on his return to the Panama airport, Carreira answered: "First, he will have to confirm exactly what he said in Costa Rica."

A lawyer consulted by ACAN-EFE said he feared Endara would be arrested because "Article 2148 of the judicial code orders preventive imprisonment for crimes (including abetting crimes) that are punishable with preventive imprisonment."

The lawyer added that "at any rate, preventive arrest must be ordered through a proceeding, otherwise, it will be anulled," and there must be "proven facts in order to verify the punishable facts."

The attorney general has taken action at the request of several charges presented against Endara. One of them was filed by Minister of Government and Justice Renato Pereira who asked for his "preventive" arrest considering that the statements made by the opposition leader are a "justification for crime and an attack against the legal organization of the state."

Pereira delivered to the attorney general a recording of Endara's statements made to a Costa Rican television channel.

Another person pressing charges before the attorney general, journalist Baltazar Renan Aizpurua, told ACAN-EFE that "we have asked for Endara's arrest, as his statements are very serious."

Aizpurua said he delivered to the attorney general a copy of an international news agency report and a recording of Endara's remarks "so that the judge can be made aware of the case."

Guillermo Ford, a Panamanian opposition leader, rejected the charges leveled by Pereira and Aizpurua and said that "Endara would not wish anyone's death."

Ford added: "Either it was a misstatement (by Endara) or a bad interpretation with malicious intent."

Ford confirmed that Endara will arrive in Panama on 30 October along with Ricardo Arias Calderon, another adversary of the regime with whom he is attending the summit of American presidents in Costa Rica—from which the Panamanian Government has been excluded.

According to Ford, Endara "will go to the Attorney General's Office, if he is summoned, because we are not fugitives of justice."

Leader on Minister's Charges

PA2710192289 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0048 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text) San Jose, 26 Oct (ACAN-EFE) — Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara today said in San Jose that Panamanian "strongman" General Manuel Antonio Noriega "has become the laughing stock at the hemispheric presidential summit," currently being held in Costa Rica.

Referring to charges by the Panamanian state-owned media to the effect that the San Jose summit is being used to conspire against Gen Noriega, Endara told ACAN-EFE that "people here who have heard this claim have burst into laughter." "It is absurd, I am ashamed that Panama is being ruled by that man," Endara added.

"CRITICA," the main Panamanian regime newspaper, today accused the opposition, the United States, and Costa Rican President Oscar Arias of "finishing up the details on the assassination of the general" at the summit.

Endara said he will return to Panama, although Panamanian Government and Justice Minister Renato Pereira has filed charges against him at the Attorney General's Office, accusing him of "abetting crime." This charge has been leveled because Endara said in San Jose that he believes Noriega will only leave power "in a wooden casket."

Endara explained that when he made that statement, he was responding to a question from a newsman who asked him if he believed Noriega would leave power by himself. Endara responded: "We, the opposition, are not going to kill him; his own comrades will do it."

Asked by ACAN-EFE if he feared returning to Panama, the Panamanian leader responded: "I always admit the Noriega regime frightens me, but I am in this and I have a commitment with the people. Surely, they will summon me to render testimony when I arrive in Panama, or

perhaps they will issue an arrest warrant for preventive detention. However, that is the price I have to pay."

"I am going to have to swallow my fear," Endara added. Endara was invited to visit Costa Rica during the hemispheric summit of democratically-elected presidents.

Regarding the expulsion from Panama of the U.S. based agency UPI, announced 26 October, Endara said "this measure is typical of a dictatorial regime," adding that "there is no freedom of expression in Panama."

'Criminal Suit' Lodged

PA2910221589 Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish 29 Oct 89 pp 10-A, 8-A

[Text] Baltazar Aizpurua Diaz and Rigoberto Paredes Solis versus Guillermo Endara Galimany:

To the Attorney General of the Nation;

We, Baltazar Aizpurua Diaz—male, Panamanian, journalist, of the age of majority, married, cedula number 8-221-1970—and Rigoberto Enrique Paredes Solis—Panamanian, born in Anton, Cocle Province on 13 Novemeber 1929, married, cedula number 2-27-582, professor—have come to this office on our own behalf and with the usual respect to register a public and criminal suit against Guillermo Endara Galimany, male, Panamanian, of the age of majority, widower, with cedula Number [as published] for the alleged crime of undermining the international legal status of the state and other actions against the authority of the Panamanian state, such as General Manuel Antonio Noriega Moreno, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP].
[signed] Rigoberto Paredes Solis, cedula number 2-27-
[signed] Baltazar Aizpurua Diaz, cedula number 8-221-1970

We base this public and criminal suit on the following:

First: On 26 and 27 October 1989, a political summit was organized in the Republic of Costa Rica to which several Latin American presidents, as well as U.S. President George Bush, were invited. However, the Republic of Panama was excluded from this summit, as is national and international public knowledge.

Second: In view of the current political circumstances between the U.S. Government and the Panamanian Government in which diplomatic relations are at their lowest level due to the political, economic, and diplomatic aggression and the very grave sanctions and restrictions imposed by the U.S. Government against the government of the Republic of Panama, Panama was not invited to this summit.

Third: As is fully established by international law, all countries signing international treaties must send their diplomatic representatives, accredited and authorized by their respective Foreign Ministries, and inasmuch as the Republic of Panama was excluded from this meeting, it did not authorize any naional citizen to represent it at that said meeting.

Fourth: According to international news agencies, Guillermo Endara Galimany and Ricardo Arias Calderon, former candidates of the opposition political parties of the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADOC] in the past elections—which were legally annulled by the Electoral Tribunal, this annulment being legally ratified by the Supreme Court of Justice—attended the summit as obeservers. At no time has the national government, through the Foreign Ministry, authorized these men to be observers—as international law specifies—much less to be unofficial members of the National Government.

They, and particularly Guillermo Endara Galimany, participated in several news conferences, violating current Panamanian laws with their actions.

Fifth: On 25 October) a DPA item reported that Mr Guillermo Endara Galimany said the following:

"San Jose, (DPA)—General Manuel Antonio Noriega, the "strongman" of Panama, will be murdered before the end of year, Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara Galimany said today in San Jose, Costa Rica.

" 'Noriega is going to leave Panama in wooden pajamas [a coffin],' the former presidential candidate of the annulled 7 May elections of Panama said during an interview on San Jose's Channel 6. Endara is in Costa Rica, invited by the local political parties to attend the American summit as an observer."

Mr Attorney General of the Nation: As you will observe in the DPA news item, Mr Guillermo Endara Galimany has openly violated current Panamanian laws inasmuch as he is referring to and inciting an assassination outside the national territory; this constitutes an act of promoting the physical elimination of Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, an authority of an institution of the state, the FDP [Panama Defense Forces], and leading to submit the Republic of Panama to a foreign state. In addition, this criminal action would decrease the independence of the Republic of Panama and lead to breaking its unity.

Sixth: Our current penal laws include this type of criminal action within the context of Penal Code, Title IX "Of the crimes against the legal status of the state," Chapter 1: Crimes against the international legal status of the State. Article 287 reads: "He who carries out an action to submit the Republic in part or in its entirety to a foreign power to lessen its independence or break its unity will be punished with an imprisonment of from 15 to 20 years."

Mr Attorney General: It is clearly evident that Mr Guillermo Endara Galimany must be summoned to answer the alleged charges against the international legal status of the state before your office, as established by law.

Request:

1. It is requested that the Attorney General order the immediate arrest of Mr Guillermo Endara Galimany, male, Panamanian, of the age of majority, widower, if he is within the national territory or upon his forthcoming arrival to the national territory.

2. It is requested that orders be given to all airports and ports of the country notifying them of this decision.

3. Inasmuch as the penalty for the crime that Guillermo Endara Galimany has committed exceeds 5 years, it is requested he be denied any right to be released on bail.

It is also requested that the Foreign Ministry be asked if it has accredited Mr Guillermo Endara Galimany and Mr Ricardo Arias Calderon to represent Panama at this meeting.

It is requested, so that it will be recorded in this dossier, that the Government and Justice Ministry certify the authority of state that Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega Moreno has, his post and functions.

Evidence:

1. I present as evidence, a copy of the DPA News Agency item issued in San Jose, Costa Rica that mentions the criminal charges being presented against Mr Guillermo Endara Galimany.

2. A copy of the certification of the DPA News Agency, that it does exist, and that it is accredited in Panama before the Government and Justice Ministry.

3. Enclosed is a copy of the daily CRITICA of 26 October of the current year in which the statements made by the abovementioned Guillermo Endara Galimany, are published.

4. In due time, we will present other pertinent evidence.
Rights:

Articles 6, 15, 32, 38, 287, and more of the Penal Code.
26 October 1989, Panama
Rigoberto Paredes Solis, cedula number 2-27-582
Baltazar Aizpurua Diaz, cedula number 8-221-1970

Baltazar Aizpurua Diaz and Rigopberto Paredes Solis, bearers of cedula numbers 8-221-1980 and 2-27-582, respectively, personally presented at 1000 today, 26 October 1989, the abovementioned suit. I hereby turn this document over to the office of the Attorney General for legal proceedings.
The secretary general [as published].

Opposition Leader Ordered 'Taken'

PA3010164089 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1558 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 30 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Guillermo Endara Galimany, leader of the Panamanian opposition, will be taken today to the Government and Justice Ministry so that he can explain some statements he made in Costa Rica about General Manuel Antonio Noriega, Government and Justice Minister Renato Pereira has announced.

"I have ordered that Mr Endara be brought to this ministry to explain the statements he made in Costa Rica," to the effect that Panama Defense Forces Chief Gen Noriega "will only leave power in wooden pajamas (in a coffin)."

Endara is scheduled to arrive in this country today at noon [1700 GMT], along with Christian Democratic Party President Ricardo Arias Calderon, from Costa Rica where he attended the San Jose Presidential Summit as "a special guest."

Daniel Ortega, Endara Agree To Maintain Contact

PA3010142089 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1226 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara spoke briefly during the presidential summit and agreed to maintain frequent contact.

Panamanian opposition leader Ricardo Arias Calderon said that Endara and Ortega are very interested in maintaining fluid and frequent contact. Arias Calderon said Commander Ortega was very hopeful that the Panamanian situation would have a favorable outcome.

Panamanian opposition leader Guillermo Endara said he was quite satisfied with the results obtained by the Panamanian opposition at the summit, although there was no formal statement condemning the Panamanian regime.

According to Endara, all the presidents who attended the summit reiterated their support for Panama's democracy and the need to put an end to the dictatorship. The Panamanian opposition leader met with several heads of state who visited the country over the past weekend to discuss the current Panamanian crisis.

The Panamanian opposition leader could be imprisoned after he returns to his country today after attending the presidential summit. Endara made certain statements at the summit that bothered the Panamanian military, which has requested Endara's arrest. Guillermo Endara's statement that Noriega would leave power in wooden pajamas, or a coffin, was characterized as justifiably a crime by the Panamanian government and justice minister, who filed a legal suit against Endara.

General Noriega Addresses Labor Organizations

PA2810012389 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 26 Oct 89 pp 1, 18

[Speech by Panama Defense Forces [FDP] Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega to labor organizations in Tanara, Chepo Province, on 25 October]

[Text] We will conduct a work style that is better planned and in 2 calendar months, we will make another assessment of what we have discussed here today. To the companeros of the peasant settlements: After the patriotic festivities, you tell me when and you set the date. Gonzalez Pitti of the banana workers, I visit that area all the time, so whenever you want, I will see you there at the border or at the banana plantations, wherever you wish.

We are going forward. I believe that if we had to make an assessment today, we would have to say honestly that we have gone forward. We are not the same as we were 3 months ago, there is optimism.

What the opposition and the enemy fear—the word "war"—that is an advancement; but the war for them is a Vietnam-style war. War for us is the war against any type of injustice, such as the slogan of the FUMCA [Women's Single Front Against Aggression]: "Against All Aggression."

You have seen that you are the cause of my psychological war, you have made me do this: I have to fight, fight with the government, which is the most difficult thing, fight with the ministers, with the president, because they live in another galaxy, their view is that things are too easy. For instance, Minister Goodin says we have to look at the monetary system in Singapore—they live in another galaxy. Then we see that everything is not as we would like. We can accomplish things. We can look at things from other angles. We look at things from the bottom up, but there is another way of looking at it, which is from the top down.

I want to ask the companeros to work up laws with their advisers, and then present and discuss them. That is the only real and effective way to tackle things. One must not only state positions and present arguments, but present them in a formal and legal manner and submit them to the Cabinet, to the proper desks where they can be implemented.

That is why I have just given Minister Valderrama all the paperwork given to me by Pinzon. But that is only the theoretical part, which is the essence of the problem. We must then look at the facts of the problem and broach them.

We must do this to accomplish things. We must work according to regulations. I want all the companeros of the workers' movement, the peasant movement, and the popular forces to be aware of this.

Housing Laws

The CAPAC [Panamanian Chamber of Construction] has just presented a set of laws through the Housing Ministry in a formal and organized manner. However, we, the people's movements, only state our needs in an emotional manner, and do nothing to make them become a reality. Let us make them a reality by presenting them in a formal and organized manner. Let us defend our principles. This is a suggestion for everyone. Whoever has thought of a law for the labor, port, peasant, or transportation sectors that would be of benefit should present it formally. Here is the Minister [of the Presidency Augusto] Valderrama. The proposal should be presented to him and you should give him all the information, benefits, and reasons for the law you are proposing.

Transportation

Thus, for example, if we talk about transportation we must note that it was a good idea for the Traffic Department to propose that the license plates not be made by the priest in Chapala [youth rehabilitation center]. This priest does not allow certain children to stay in the center; he practices discrimination in that place, and it was the center of organizations that worked against the people's interests.

License Plate System

Now that the Traffic Department wants to implement another system that will benefit us more, all these organizations start protesting and harassing us. This is just an example for you to note how the forces against the people's interests operate; their work is not obvious, it is not tangible.

Backbone

I want to repeat that we have advanced. The FDP has advanced. Major [Francisco] Porras was reminding me that there is a traitor for every 1,000 men. This is true. That there are 20 traitors in every phase. True. Treason occurs everywhere, and this is especially true in places close to the area of defense and to the spinal column. Your back will hurt if you sit on a hard chair for a long time because it affects your spinal column. Your arm or your head will not hurt; your back will hurt. Thus, the body's defense is the backbone. Where is the backbone and defense of this country? It is the FDP and that is why they want to break it, that is why they want to control it.

Defense of Our Nationality

It is a hard nut to crack. If the FDP falls, then the head will fall. That is why they do not attack the finance minister or the labor minister. They do not attack them. They have to attack the backbone of Panama's national defense. We are committed to the defense of the Panamanian nationality regardless of whatever position or political ideology we may profess. Let there be no discussion about this.

I am certain and fully agree with Sanchez [port workers leader] because of the experience from the 1969 coup against Torrijos. What did they seek? The dismantling of the entire labor leadership. When the Americans have tried to negotiate, it has been because they want to stop a labor movement. Moreover, there is evidence showing that it was a people's labor movement affecting the Americans' development as a strategic superpower in this area. Therefore, we must not be misled.

Consequently we must come together, join one another. Despite any problems that we might have, despite each person's view of life from the vantage point of his own beliefs, there is one thing that unites us, and it is the fatherland, the place we all come from. We must defend everything our ancestors stood for: this is something that no one can take from us because it is like the gamma globulin in our blood.

Therefore, I believe this conversation is timely, this is a positive contact. Comrade newsmen, foreign newsmen, Japanese newsmen who have joined us, which is something that the imperialists want to prevent: all the people's forces and the High Command are here.

Torrijos was a visionary when he said: "We are going to bring the Japanese here so that Japan also participates in the construction of the new canal." The United States annulled such a request. Our likeness with Japan is not new, it dates back to the time when the Japanese arrived at San Miguel Island. They have had great experiences with the pearl on San Miguel Island where pearls are cultivated. Hence, the attitude toward Japan, so that the Japanese do not come to Panama—as Japan has reached other countries—so that the Japanese do not come to Panama [repeats himself]. That is simply part of the aggression. It is an open aggression at the international level, against all human rights, against the rights of the human beings meeting here—who are against the United States. If we want to start condenming, the United States would be the first because of its human rights violations against children, education, freedom, and the minds of the people.

Active Participation

I appreciate your initiative in arranging this meeting, with everyone's small but active participation, and the ministers who are here, especially [Finance and Treasury Minister Dr Orville] Goodin, listen to this.

It is very interesting what Sanchez says. We shall ask the others to pay for this.

Sacrifice Quota

I totally agree, sacrifice is a part of life, so let us ask those who live peacefully to sacrifice their share. We ensure their security, and their lives. Is security taxed? Let us charge them a tax.

How can it be possible! I totally agree, that is why sometimes I get into trouble. We are going to impose this tax and we have accepted it as the people's will, and the government must be totally aware and grateful that its' people are aware and more humane than any other people in the world. These people have censured themselves, these people have shown their real mettle. Peru's Alan Garcia cannot claim this, and Carlos Andres Perez even less so.

Aware People

Here people are aware, that is why we must thank these people, thank all of us who are committed to the people, and aware of our ancestry, but I do agree that we need to suspend those direct payroll deductions that go to the Spaniards [reference to furniture shopowners], those direct deductions [repeats himself] and we are going to do it, we are going to stop those housing evictions [sentence as published]. I call on all Panamanians on the government team present here, and the president of the Republic, to pass on what I am saying in this emotional moment so that they can all become our lawyers as Sanchez mentioned. Thank you.

Ambassadors Summoned for Policy 'Redefining'

PA2710220889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1718 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 27 Oct (ACAN - EFE)— The government of Panama gathered today its Latin American ambassadors with the purpose of "redefining in an overall manner, the Panamanian foreign policy," and trying to neutralize the effects of the international isolation of the regime.

The meeting was opened by Panamanian Vice President Carlos Ozores, who told ACAN - EFE that the government had summoned the ambassadors because "this is the area where the U.S. policy against Panama has had the most effect."

The ambassadors were summoned on the same day that the American presidential summit opened in Costa Rica, and from which Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez was excluded because he was not democratically elected.

The majority of the Latin American countries withdrew their ambassadors from Panama following the annulment of the 7 May elections, which the opposition claims to have won.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam told ACAN - EFE that the initiative also seeks "to design a plan of action destined to counter the huge isolation campaign that the United States is promoting against Panama."

Several members of the Panamanian Cabinet and diplomatic corps will speak at the meeting. Planning and Economic Policy Minister Gustavo Gonzalez will analyze "the impact of the U.S. sanctions," while Government and Justice Minister Renato Pereira will explain the so-called "war laws" recently adopted by the government.

Ozores emphasized the fact that, due to the current situation of the country, the functions of the Panamanian ambassadors abroad have an "importance that goes beyond the diplomatic mission originally entrusted to you."

According to Ozores, "the aggression has altered Panama's development in such a manner that it will take

many long years to recover, at least, to the levels we had in June 1987," when the economic and political crisis of the country began.

The Panamanian vice president admitted that "the country today is not the same as it was 28 months ago," and he charged "the aggressive policy" (of the United States) "seeks to isolate Panama."

The Panamanian diplomatic corps meeting will conclude tomorrow, with the participation of Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez.

Instructed To Break Isolation

PA2910022989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0123 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 28 Oct (ACAN - EFE)—Panamanian President Francisco Rodriguez today urged the Panamanian ambassadors to Latin American countries to try to break the international and diplomatic isolation that the Panamanian regime has been sustaining since the 7 May elections were annulled.

In a speech to close a 2 - day meeting with the ambassadors to Latin American countries today, Rodriguez said: "There is no room for prudish, lazy, or unimaginative diplomats."

The meeting, convened by Foreign Minister Leonardo Kam, was also attended by Panama Defense Forces [FDP] Chief General Manuel Antonio Noriega and several ministers.

After the elections were annulled—the opposition claims it won—most of the Latin American ambassadors were recalled by their governments.

The designation of Rodriguez as president on 1 September was criticized by numerous Latin American and European governments, and repudiated by the U.S. Government, which does not recognize Rodriguez.

According to the president, "the United States has pressured many Latin American countries, which have aligned themselves against Panama, by blackmailing them with their foreign debts or by threatening to take their dirty linen out of U.S. files." Rodriguez warned he will be "demanding" on the ambassadors because, he said, the work of a diplomat "has ceased to be comfortable and pleasant." From now on, ambassadors will have to become "soldiers of a nation under aggression."

Rodriguez reported the existence of a "disinformation campaign" waged by the United States to "make believe the U.S. Government is good while the Panamanian Government and the FDP are evil."

The ambassadors approved a document called "The Tocumen Commitment"" (after the location where the meeting was held). According to the diplomats, "Panama relies on the support of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples" in its struggle to recover the canal.

President Rodriguez' Speaks at PRD Meeting

PA2910202889 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1957 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Speech by Provisional President Francisco Rodriguez to members of the National Executive Committee of the Democratic Revolutionary Party at the Balboa Theater in Panama City—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ....taking advantage of this event, which is so important for our party, and trusting and also hoping that the discussions that have taken place at this event today will be useful and productive for our party and, therefore, for our country.

I would like, Mr President and directors of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], to take advantage of your generosity to express a few very brief thoughts, because in approximately 3 days I will have completed my 1st 2 months in office as provisional president of the Republic, along with Vice President Carlos Ozores Typaldos, as stipulated by the General State Council.

Over the past 2 months, the country has witnessed a series of very fast-breaking events that, in reality, have led to some very rapid changes in conduct, mentality, methods, and in the government's work dynamics in order to not only meet the country's demands and needs, but also to respond to a series of actions and onslaughts which, from both at home and abroad, have taken place against our country.

During these 2 months, I had to, first of all, put together a government—an executive branch, ministries with their autonomous institutions—and initiate the organization of local governments from the nominations made by governors, mayoral offices, and corregimiento representatives; devise and approve a series of laws well known to all of you; and, naturally, to visit the various local and international forums to make the country's truth known, so that we can confront the massive and crushing disinformation campaign against the nation, its authorities, the commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, in short, against the sources of power in this country.

However, all of this has been possible—and I must honestly acknowledge it—thanks to the solidarity and militant support of our PRD. [applause] Because of this I would like you to truly understand—because it has been said here and I share the belief—that today more than ever we need the necessary synchronization, participation, and support of the sources of political power in this country. That is, the PRD—and I would add the patriotic forces that are not members of the PRD and that participate in the common goal of preserving our sovereign identity as a Republic—the FDP, and, naturally, the government, represented by the executive branch.

The very complex time we are experiencing makes it an obligation, a necessity, to have that synchronization, participation, and solidarity emerge and rise up against any attempt at factionalism aimed at rupturing that

union. Each one of us is responsible for preventing this factionalism that our enemies are seeking in order to fish in troubled waters.

I believe, Mr President, that it is, therefore, necessary for me to reflect a little on what I believe the party's role should be, and on the responsibility of the president and vice president of the Republic, who are militant, active, and founding members of the PRD. We are not outsiders or strangers. [applause]

However, it must also be understood that the president and vice president of the Republic, precisely within their duty to lead the state toward a national reconciliation, must necessarily converse with, address, talk to, contact, and feel out the living forces in this country, whether or not they are members of the PRD. This must be understood and accepted. [applause]

Additionally—the way I interpret and understand it—there can be nothing better than fulfilling the goal that Torrijos pointed out when he told us that it is always necessary to feel out and consult with the rank and file of our people in every possible case. This means that this forum—our party—is one of the most essential forums for that entire process of transformation and change.

Our government must be a government of change. It cannot lock itself into one position. It must be a government of change, but of change and transformation which, I repeat, must truly reflect the needs, the consultations, the necesary adjustment and discussions. Ours cannot be a process of change for the sake of change. It cannot be a process or a government that improvises laws or transformations. Instead, changes must be duly studied, and the best forum for this is the PRD. [applause]

These changes obviously go hand in hand with the process of consultation and discussion that should exist within local governments, as I have stated on other occasions. I believe that if all of us—government, party, and those who are not members of the PRD—seriously, honestly, and responsibly set out to make Torrijos' consultation doctrine valid, this country will benefit from those efforts, and the country will be eternally grateful to us.

Under these conditions, I believe, and I am certain—because it is my desire and my interest, Mr President and members of the PRD National Directorate—that my government will be the leading defender of any transformation proposal that fulfills those goals. I am willing to do this.

Distinguished members of the PRD, Mr President and Mr Vice President of the PRD, members of the CEN, I thank you for your attention during this brief speech. I reiterate my gratitude to you because I have progressed as I have to date thanks to the support, confidence, solidarity, and backing of our PRD. Thank you very much. [applause]

PRD Issues Statement of Support for Noriega

PA3010174589 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 30 Oct 89 pp 14, 8

[Political statement issued by the Political Commission of the Democratic Revolutionary Party's National Directorate at the Balboa Theater in Panama City on 28 October]

[Text] Political Statement

The PRD [Democratic Relvolutionary Party] National Directorate held a special meeting today, 28 October 1989, to study the country's situation after the very serious events that took place on 3 October, and, after doing so, states:

1. According to the available information, including information received from official U.S. sources, the attempted military coup was a direct product of U.S. Government clandestine activity. Furthermore, repeated and contradictory denials by officials at various U.S. agencies have only served to make more evident their complicity in this activity. Thus, the Bush regime has once again shown its commitment to the ultraconservative political sectors in its country and to the adventurous and dangerous policies they promote.

2. In addition to military personnel, the bloody plot also included civilian sectors closely linked to the leadership of the Civic Crusade and ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance]. As if this were not enough, the leaders of these organizations have publicly and insistently stated their commitment to the seditious adventure and even called for the U.S. Armed Forces to intervene militarily to support the coupists.

3. The 3 October military adventure must, therefore, be seen as a mere continuation of U.S. efforts to install a docile, reactionary, antipopular, and antidemocractic regime in Panama—a regime that will ensure the permanence of U.S. troops in our country after the year 2000 and that will accept the United States' constant violations of the Torrijos-Carter treaties. The Bush regime—with the excuse of fighting for democracy—has displayed ample evidence that it has and will continue to break all the U.S. legal norms that it has to; that it will not respect international law; and that it will not abide by the moral code that is necessary between countries if doing these things enables it to impose the dictates of its military and economic interests on Panama.

4. The United States' political and economic aggression and its military harrassment has now been followed by direct military intervention in its plot to murder the Panama Armed Forces [FDP] commander. Even today, all the top officials in Bush's regime are searching for new forms and mechanisms to promote another coup attempt that will have the same chances of being successful. In addition, the oppostion and Civic Crusade leaders have also not only lent themselves voluntarily to the interventionist game against our country, but they have also contributed to the success of the foreign plans.

5. The participation of governments, parties, and Latin American leaders in the interventionist and coupist activities of the Bush regime is also unquestionable. Leaders like Oscar Arias, Carlos Andres Perez, Michael Manley, and Alan Garcia have adopted the sad role of pawns who delight in taking part in the U.S. Government game. In violation of the Latin American principles of nonintervention and self-determination, these leaders, parties, and governments have helped to distort our struggle, to disinform people in their countries—to conceal the true U.S. interest and the violations of the Torrijos-Carter Treaties—while allegedly defending our sovereign rights, international solidarity, justice, and democracy.

As those people shamefully remain silent about the outrages committed by other truly tyranical regimes installed and artificially supported by the United States, they themselves subject their people to infamous economic and social impositions—resulting from their commitments to multinationals and international banks—as they conceal the blackmailing the Bush government shamelessly imposes upon them. They attack Panama, its leaders, and our party using the pretext given to them by Washington—that is, to contribute to the democratic development of our society.

6. The PRD is guided by and practices the principles of Torrijism. It frankly believes that General Manuel Antonio Noriega represents the leadership in our country that is fully committed to such principles.

Therefore, we hereby express our firm commitment:

1. To struggle by all necessary means to defend the life of our leader and to report at every opportunity the U.S. Government's irrational, illegal, and unjust behavior. In this regard, we propose to support the reorganization of the Foreign Relations Ministry so that the urgent international objectives of our country can be achieved.

2. To request the convocation of a General State Council, which will immediately decide upon all the actions that must be taken before the appropriate international organizations to prevent the development of new assassination plans by the Bush regime.

3. To strengthen our commitment and determination to achieve our country's total independence and liberation and to implement the government programs which stem from our principles.

4. To defeat any trend within Panamanian society which, with the pretext of lessening our people's suffering, seeks reconciliation with our domestic and foreign enemies by sacrificing the Torrijist principles and the dignity of our commander, our party, and our fatherland.

5. To punish severely the treason of those who have placed themselves at the service of the foreign power that is trying to destroy our sovereignty and national spirit.

6. To exert influence decisively so that the national government will implement the guidelines issued by our commander in order to respond immediately to the popular needs and to support the immediate and total enforcement of the war laws.

7. To support the efforts of President Francisco Rodriguez and the rest of his government team because they have been courageously and intelligently meeting the challenge the fatherland is facing. To support the reorganization of the people's government, the only real guarantee that the foundations of the national liberation process will be truly popular and democratic.

8. To fully reorganize our party to effectively turn it into the political and ideological guide of our society and, above all, of its popular organizations, in order to guarantee that there will be appropriate means of permanent communication between the top leadership of the process and our people.

National Directorate of the Democratic Revolutionary Party

PRD Resolution Urges Relations With Soviets

PA2910172289 Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish 29 Oct 89 p 2-A

[Resolution issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Party calling for establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR]

[Text] WHEREAS:

1. Panama has been privileged by nature to be a center for world communications and international trade. The productive exploitation of this privilege requires developing mutually respectful and beneficial relations with all nations in the world, which is the only real guarantee for lasting peace and security in our country.

2. Most Latin American and Caribbean countries have established diplomatic relations and are developing economic relations with the Soviet Union in accordance with current international practice.

3. Panama has been an exception, to the detriment of our country's economic, commercial, and diplomatic interests, disregarding the fact that the USSR is an important canal user and a good market for Panama's economy.

RESOLVES:

1. To demand from the national government the immediate establishment of diplomatic and consular relations with the Soviet Union, as well as accrediting the corresponding Panamanian officials in that country.

Central Government Approves New Decree-Laws

PA2810030689 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2307 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] The central government has issued a second group of laws to guarantee increased low-cost housing construction, which is a priority, to ensure normal and fluid

medicine supplies for the people at state health institutions, and to protect state employees' salaries.

The executive branch has approved a decree-law that broadens the legal definition of priority social interest housing costs from 10,000 to 15,000 balboas.

Likewise, through another decree-law, the incentives that had been granted for the construction of housing in general will be extended to include home constructions that begin by 30 June 1992 and conclude by 30 June 1994. Payment of real estate taxes established in Article 10 of Law 100 of 4 October 1973 has been extended for 5 additional years. Benefits and incentives for the construction industry have been extended to 31 December 1994.

Meanwhile, the executive branch has exonerated the Social Security Bank and other health institutions from the requirement of public bidding to purchase medicine, drugs, and surgical equipment, and has authorized these institutions to purchase these items through bidding contests or direct purchases from any individual or corporation authorized to enter into contracts with the state.

The national government also approved the decree-law whereby any person who has the legal authority to trade can import medicine, drugs, automobile replacement parts, farm machinery, and agro-chemical products for wholesale or retail sale, subject to the existing legal provisions.

The executive branch also approved a measure that restores the implementation of legal provisions to protect government employees' salaries. The measure is aimed at avoiding excessive discounts from the salaries of state employees. Such discounts were established through modifications to the current laws without the necessary elements of judgement, when the law that regulates financial institutions was adopted. In conjunction with this decree-law the government will exert the necessary administrative controls to avoid self-imposed garnishments and fictitious [word indistinct], which are used to avoid fulfilling commitments.

The central government also issued a decree-law that will ensure that the national Merchant Marine will maintain the leading position it currently holds.

This package of decree-laws, the executive branch underscores, are an effort to preserve adequate economic levels and the national security which have been affected by the U.S. Government's aggression.

Labor Party Issues Communique on Situation

PA3010031789 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 22 Oct 89 p C-2

[Paid advertisement: Communique issued by the Labor Party, on 6 October 1989]

[Text] In view of the current political situation of the country, the Political Commission and the national directors of the Labor Party (PALA) feel it is their duty to make the following political pronouncement:

The members of PALA, one of the most recent political parties in the nation, are pleased with the definite progress we have made in all corners of the country as a result of our own style and philosophy. Our basic norm is respect and political tolerance for all citizens and their ideas, whether we agree with them or not.

PALA also points out that we have fulfilled our responsibility as a political organization committed to the overall development of all Panamanians, making proposals for the well-being of the nation in various fields such as the educational, economic, and political fields. These proposals were made at the proper time and published in the local media.

However, the difficult economic, social, and political situation of the nation compels us, as a party, to think over the basic objectives of the political parties in these moments and their role in the difficult moments the Panamanian nation has been experiencing in recent months.

There are many events and issues that demand our urgent analysis and study—annulment of the 7 May elections; the lack of positive results in the tripartite dialogue with the mediation of the OAS; the installation of a provisional government as of 1 September; the U.S. reaffirmation of measures against our country that have led to the poverty and suffering of the people, particularly the poorest sectors of our people with thousands of Panamanians families suffering need and economic hardship; youths that today suffer from a lack of opportunities; the many fellow countrymen who are qualified and intelligent, yet today suffer frustration and experience the despair of not being able to develop their talent, initiative, and creativity; and the very grave events of 3 October unleashed by a group of coupist militarymen. All of these facts demand that we issue legislation to confront them as soon as possible with courage and determination. Therefore, we must not wait any longer for the solutions that all Panamanians want.

We must continue to resist and struggle to achieve our full independence. However, at the same time we must find an urgent solution to the problems of employment, food, health, housing, and education needed by the people, and particularly by the youths that will guide the destiny of the country in the long-awaited year 2000.

For the present and future generations of Panama, we strongly uphold that all the social forces of the nation have the moral obligation to resist in the noble task of saving Panama, by taking the Panamanians united to the achievement of our highest objectives.

This reality that demands that all national groups redouble efforts in the search for adequate formulas of agreement that will lead us, once and for all, to a true and effective national reconciliation.

Based on these considerations, PALA's Political Committee and National Directors propose:

1. To renew efforts and actions that could lead to a rapprochement and reconciliation among Panamanians.

2. That all Panamanians and all national sectors, including the church, wage a campaign designed to denounce the negative effect that the U.S. measures are having and the suffering they are producing, especially among the poor. PALA and its National Directors believe that the current situation demands a clear and united position by all the social forces genuinely struggling for national liberation, to be able to face all the obstacles we will have to face over the next few years.

Because of this, PALA's Political Committee and National Directors, in compliance with what is established in letter "A" of Article 53 of the party's statutes, which authorizes us to recommend short-term, middle-term, and long-term policies, resolves:

1. To declare that PALA will maintain a watchful attitude with regard to political developments in the country.

2. To state that PALA, to face the U.S. aggression without weakening national dignity and sovereignty, has begun analyzing opinion trends, social laws, and other measures that may benefit the country.

3. PALA reaffirms its trust in political pluralism and in the people stating their will through the political parties that participate in the nation's life.

4. For this reason and until the moment this disposition is revoked, all PALA members and organizations at the national, provincial, district, and corregimiento levels, acting individually or collectively, will abstain from issuing any statement, declaration, proclamation, or communique on party activities and developments.

5. To appoint an Ad Hoc Commission composed of the following party members: Alberto Velasquez, Cesar Martans, Rene Bultron, Alejandro Vernaza, and Jose Maria Redondo.

The objective of this is to consult with the political parties, the executive branch, the Panama Defense Forces, church representatives, and all social forces to establish what specific actions must be carried out in view of the political and economic situation that all the Panamanian people are living through.

The Ad Hoc Commission must report to PALA's Political Committee within 30 days, counting from today. This deadline can be extended. This disposition will be in effect as long as it is not revoked by the Political Committee or another party organization with authority.

We take advantage of this opportunity to urge all the members of the Political Committee; national, provincial, district, and corregimiento directors; and all PALA militants throughout the country to continue working militantly and with passion against the Yankee aggression to demonstrate our firm will to continue advancing until the last foreign soldier leaves our fatherland.

The party hereby fully acknowledges the dedication and honesty that all our fellow party members who are public employees and belong to the Federation of Political Committees of PALA have always demonstrated in fulfilling their functions and, especially, for their relevant participation in all the actions organized to defend the dignity and sovereignty of our besieged fatherland.
6 October 1989, Panama City
Political Committee and National Directors

More on Expulsion of UPI Correspondents

PA2710214289 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 27 Oct 89 pp 40, C-4

[Text] Government and Justice Minister Dr Renato Pereira has issued a resolution ordering the United Press International (UPI) news agency to close operations in the national territory.

The resolution, signed by Minister Dr Renato Pereira and Vice Minister Jose Ismael Herrera, was made public on 26 October.

The resolution explains that the UPI has systematically violated journalistic ethics by disseminating "false reports, with the evident purpose of marring the prestige of the authorities of the Republic of Panama, and harming the image of its leaders."

The Government and Justice Ministry has cancelled the registration of all the UPI correspondents in the Republic of Panama and has given all foreign staff members of the news agency a 72-hour deadline to leave the Republic of Panama.

Last August, journalist Elizabeth Jordan, who works for UPI, was fined 1,500 balboas "for sending false reports."

Meanwhile, Luis Romero Villalobos, ad hoc secretary of the Government and Justice Ministry, said that this resolution will be posted on the door of UPI's office on Avenue 206 North, Number 4B, Altos de Miraflores [suburb in Panama City] so that it will serve as formal notification of Resolution Number 089 dated 20 October 1989. The interested parties are warned that 2 days after the present resolution is posted, the notification will be in effect, as if it had been done personally.

The resolution reads as follows: Republic of Panama, Ministry of Government and Justice Resolution Number 089 Panama, 20 October 1989

The Ministry of Government and Justice, making use of its legal powers,

Whereas:

UPI operates in the Republic through national and foreign correspondents registered with this ministry.

UPI has systematically violated journalistic ethics by disseminating false reports with the evident purpose of marring the prestige of the authorities of the Republic of Panama and harming the image of its leaders.

In spite of frequent summons, UPI has not changed its line of action. On the contrary, it has increased its hostility toward the national cause of the people and Panamanian Government.

This ministry is empowered to accredit and register, and therefore, to cancel the operation of foreign news agencies.

Be it resolved:

First: To order UPI to close operations in the country.

Second: To cancel the registration of all its correspondents in the Republic of Panama.

Third: To establish a deadline of 72 hours for all foreign staff members of that news agency to leave the Republic of Panama.

Fourth: To warn that only an appeal for reconsideration will be valid against this resolution. This resolution is based on the following:

Articles 15, 17, and 18 of Law No 11 dated 10 February 1978; Articles 10, 11, and 15 of Law No 67 dated 19 September 1978. Notify and make public.
Government and Justice Minister Dr Renato Pereira, Government and Justice Vice Minister Jose Ismael Herrera.

Association Protests Ouster

PA3010170089 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2216 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 28 Oct (DPA)—The board of directors of the Association of Foreign Press Correspondents of Panama, in a letter sent today to Government and Justice Minister Renato Pereira, expressed its "concern over the unacceptable measures" of closing UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, UPI, and ordering the foreign personnel working for the news agency to leave the country.

The directors also expressed their "surprise and displeasure" regarding the resolution against UPI since it was issued just when Tomas Cupas, its representative and the association of correspondents' president-for-life, was out of the country.

The correspondents also requested a meeting with Pereira to learn why the Government Ministry decided to act against UPI, because the resolution does not specify the reasons.

Three days ago, the Government Ministry accused UPI of publishing "false information" and ordered the agency to halt operations in Panama. The association of correspondents asked that the decision be reconsidered and that the agency and its representatives be allowed to continue working in Panama.

Government Raids PDC Leader's Business

PA2710170789 Paris AFP in Spanish 0710 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Panama City, 26 Oct (AFP)—This afternoon, Panamanian authorities raided Bandag Tires Company, a retreading tire business owned by Ivan Romero, general secretary of the opposition Christian Democratic Party [PDC], in Panama City.

An official of the assistant prosecutors office, accompanied by five civilians, arrived at the firm with a search warrant this afternoon. Bandag workers disclosed that they were looking for certain documents and for PDC activist Ariel Arauz, Romero's personal friend.

The authorities have raided PDC-related companies three times in the past 60 days.

According to party sources, approximately 20 PDC members were arrested in the past 2 months as they were accused of crimes against the state's security.

Columnist Denounces Alleged CIA Collaborator

PA3010161889 Panama City LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL in Spanish 29 Oct 89 pp 10-A, 8-A

[Letter from Salustiano Diaz, who is not further identified, to journalist Baltazar Renan Aizpurua, published in Aizpurua's "Political Coliseum" column—date and place not given]

[Text] Dear Mr Baltazar Renan Aizpurua,

General Noriega has already said during this decisive moment in our history as a free and sovereign nation, "Let us stop fooling around and crack down on our enemies." How is it possible that none of the reporters of the revolutionary process have denounced that human leech named Anel Beliz, spokesman for the oposition and sedition? Just as Terry Kneebone was in charge of coordinating the disinformation campaign against Panama in the international press as a U.S. weapon against us, Anel Beliz is in charge of doing the same job for the traitorous opposition and the oligarchic sedition.

Just who is this guy? Let us look into his background. Many years ago he ran afoul of the law in a case of sexual misconduct, and his family sent him to the United States to study journalism. He came back with an arm full of degrees that are easy to get. However, he has never been able to work in any professional capacity because he cannot write a coherent page. Anel Beliz is what we might call an "illiterate intellectual."

When he returned to Panama, he went to work for the "Point Four" program. There he met Jack Vaughn, who used him as an informer in the U.S. Embassy's intelligence service. He has been on the CIA payroll ever since. Anel Beliz has many complexes. He is ashamed of his color and his kinky hair. His complexes have led him to seek the company of the oligarchy. That is how it happened that Sammy Boyd employed him as a stooge

and, following the tradition in Panama, placed him on the payroll of one of his enterprises—Cemento Panama.

During the political campaign, Boyd used Beliz to do all the dirty work, including buying votes and organizing vote fraud. In Cemento Panama, he was used as a messenger for blackmail and bribery activities.

When Cemento Panama implemented an austerity program, it got rid of Anel Beliz, the costly "freeloader" inherited from Sammy Boyd. Beliz, however, remained on the CIA payroll, serving it and the U.S. Embassy in Panama.

When there was a vacancy for the post of Public Relations Officer of the Panama Canal Commission, the State Department, the U.S. Embassy, and Jack Vaughn supported the nomination of Anel Beliz. He was appointed, passing over many Panamnains who were better qualified and more committed to defend Panama's interests.

When he started to work for the commission, he came across qualified personnel in every deparment, and to hide his mediocrity and ineptitude he started harassing the employees. One day the employees went to General McAuliffe, the Panama Canal Commission Administrator, to report the abuses committed by the mental dwarf Anel Beliz. The general had to order an investigation, ousting Beliz from his post.

A few hours after his being fired, the employees had compiled their charges: discrimination (he does not look at his face in the mirror, nor does he see his children, he hates blacks); cheating on annual leave (which amounted to several thousand dollars); dishonesty in taking time off from his job to "moonlight" with a Hong Kong firm; and sexual harassment, because his complex leads him to act like a Casanova.

The U.S. Embassy, the State Department, and Jack Vaughn tried to save him. However, the evidence was overwhelming. When he realized he had lost, he begged McAuliffe for one last favor for all he had done for the United States. He begged to be allowed to resign and asked for a letter of recommendation. By granting this request McAuliffe got rid of the pest and managed not to displease Beliz' "protectors" too much.

Since then, he has continued to work for the CIA and the U.S. Embassy. To justify part of the juicy salary he is earning, he is the spokesman for the opposition. As we said before, his job is to participate, from within the servile ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] in the international war of disinformation against Panama.

I am closing this letter, expressing my firm conviction that it is time to denounce all the rats, who, like Beliz, are working against Panama's interests.
Patriotically yours,
Salustiano Diaz, identification No 8-27-243

Citizen Threatens To Kill ADOC Leaders

PA3010142489 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 30 Oct 89 p 2

["A Patriot's Oath" signed by Victor Shailer H.]

[Text] I, Victor Ivan Shailer Herrera, male, Panamanian, identification number 7-70-2489, assume the responsibility of people's attorney general. Therefore, I swear before the fatherland's altar to capture, indict, and sentence to death citizens Guillermo Endara, Ricardo Arias Calderon, and Guillermo Ford should the CIA, FBI, Southern Command, Army South Command, and their internal allies in the treacherous, seditious, and renegade opposition carry out the order given by the Bush administration to kidnap and/or assassinate General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of our revolutionary process of national liberation.

This oath is legally and morally based on the announcement made by ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] leaders through Costa Rica's television channel 6, that Commander Noriega will be assassinated before the end of the year following orders from their Yankee master, President Bush. The international public has witnessed this action, and the world knows that crimes against the fatherland are punishable by the death penalty, which can be declared by conventional or nonconventional courts.

I request that any reward previously offered by nationals or foreigners that may result from this action be delivered to the San Miguelito municipality as financial support for the COIF [Family Child Care Center] which attends to poor children in that district. To me, the best reward will be the satisfaction of defending our nationalist and revolutionary convictions.

SOVEREIGNTY OR DEATH.
Victor Shailer
Identification number 7-70-2489

Argentina

President Menem Leaves for Costa Rica

PY2710120289 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1022 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 27 Oct (DYN)—President Carlos Menem this morning stressed that fuel prices and utility rates will "remain unchanged" until March 1990, adding that the implementation of the economic plan "will be firmly continued." He said that during his meeting with U.S. President George Bush he will not demand a 50-percent reduction on the payments on Argentina's foreign debt.

The president made these remarks at Ezeiza airport, shortly before leaving at 0430 for Costa Rica aboard the TC-91 presidential plane to attend the centennial celebration of Costa Rican democracy. [passage omitted]

After the commemoration in Costa Rica, Menem will hold a 4-hour talk with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega in Managua.

The Argentine president is scheduled to arrive at San Jose's "Juan Santamaria" airport at 0800.

President Menem will stay in the Costa Rican capital until the morning of 30 October. At 1200 on that day, he is scheduled to make a technical stopover in Managua, where he will hold a 4-hour meeting with Daniel Ortega. Menem will thus become the first Argentine president to visit Nicaragua since the Sandinists assumed power.

Menem was initially scheduled to return to Buenos Aires early on 29 October, but his visit was extended because he has been invited to stay another day in Costa Rica and to make a stopover in Nicaragua.

While in Costa Rica, Menem will meet Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sanchez and—among others—U.S., Brazilian, Venezuelan, Uruguayan, Nicaraguan, and Canadian chiefs of state; George Bush, Jose Sarney, Carlos Andres Perez, Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Daniel Ortega, and Brian Mulroney, respectively.

In San Jose, Menem will stay at Cariari Hotel, in the outskirts of the city.

Menem on Ortega's 'Untimely' Decision

PY3010012689 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1352 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Oct (DYN)—President Carlos Menem said this morning that during tomorrow's meeting with Nicaragua's President Daniel Ortega he will ask his Nicaraguan colleague to review his decision to end the cease-fire in Nicaragua. Ortega's announcement during the presidential summit in San Jose, Costa Rica, that his government would renew the offensive against the anti-Sandinist insurgents caused visible consternation among those present, particularly the U.S. delegation.

Menem, speaking to Radio Mitre by telephone, characterized Ortega's decision as "untimely" and expressed his hope that Ortega "will reconsider his decision and maintain the truce, the peace in Nicaragua, until the end of the electoral process." Menem also noted again that he is willing, if requested, to mediate for peace in Central America.

Asked about the most outstanding results of his meeting with President Bush, Menem said that Bush is willing "to contribute, within a framework of interdependence, to Argentina's evolution and economic development."

Regarding the hunger strikes taking place in some prisons, where common criminals are asking that their prison terms be commuted, Menem said the government will consider the issue. However, he added that such attitudes "are arbitrary and do not lead us anywhere." Menem said the strikes "are not a means of pressuring us" an advised the inmates to accept the discipline of the prisons.

Menem concluded by saying that the rumors about the resignation of his economic team are "very crude," particularly the rumor about the resignation of Central Bank President Javier Gonzalez Fraga. "There is nothing, not even a faint supposition," Menem said.

Decree Rescinds Law Freezing British Assets

PY2810000489 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2342 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 27 Oct (TELAM)—Through a decree, the national executive branch has abolished Law No 22591 issued in May 1982. Article No 1 of the law established a freeze on British assets in Argentina.

It was reported tonight that the measure, implemented through Decree No 1146, complies with one of the points of the joint Argentine-UK declaration issued at the Madrid meeting on 19 October. [passage omitted]

Cavallo: UK Exclusion Zone 'Sign of Distrust'

PY2710225689 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 27 Oct 89 p 9

[Text] Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo said on 26 October that the Argentine Government considers the British exclusion zone around the Malvinas Islands to be a sign of distrust. The countries have agreed to reestablish consular relations.

Cavallo told foreign journalists: "We have sought the reestablishment of diplomatic relations with the UK. However, this not only depends on Argentina, but also on the UK's willingness to resolve this issue. We think that the military protection zone is an expression of distrust and that there is no reason for it."

Talks were held in Madrid last week in which the British told Argentina that they were going to reduce the protection zone to 150 miles. The presence of

nonmilitary Argentine ships in the Malvinas waters will be authorized, but the ban remains in effect for Argentine Navy ships.

Shortly before the meetings of 17 and 18 October, Cavallo told a newspaper that the UK trusted President Carlos Menem's control over the Argentine Armed Forces that have toppled six civilian governments since 1930 and launched the Malvinas campaign.

The foreign minister added: "There was a reason (for the zone) during the war and perhaps immediately after it, but at this time there is enough evidence already that the Argentine democratic system has established itself. The two countries have recognized that there have not been any hostilities since the war."

The negotiators of the two countries, who are scheduled to meet again in Madrid in February 1990 to study the possibility of restoring full diplomatic ties, this time agreed to remove all bilateral obstacles to commerce, finance, and transportation.

"For the time being, regarding the issues closer to sovereignty, we have achieved a reserve on rights [reserva de derechos].... We believe that some day we will be able to discuss the sovereignty issue," Cavallo stated.

Rapanelli Discusses Foreign Debt, Inflation

PY2710172689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2102 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (TELAM)—Economy Minister Nestor Rapanelli said today that the "final" solution of the foreign debt problem "should inevitably include a substantial and realistic reduction of its principal and interests."

He also said that "we are going to leave the decade of debt behind." He added that "just as we are not willing to continue paying with the inflationary issuance of currency, no sensible person can expect to get paid with inflation and with economic stagnation.

Speaking at noon today at a luncheon organized by the Commerce and Production Council, Rapanelli said that "we must bring the inflation rate down to around 5 to 10 percent per month.

He explained that the reduction of the inflation rate "will demand strict, almost heroic, fiscal and monetary discipline." He added that the consolidation of stability will not be possible "without removing the systems of privilege and, above all, without eliminating the barriers imposed on foreign trade, which have prevailed in the Argentine economic behavior over the past few decades."

He added that "our objectives, which are already beginning to be fulfilled and for which we will continue to strive with courage and perseverance," are to "progressively" remove export duties, reduce the level and dispersion of the tax structure, and eliminate the nontaxable contributions and the imposition of quotas.

Rapanelli added: "We are not naive regarding the conditions in which this process is developing. We are in a world of continental-level commercial blocs which seem to be isolating themselves gradually."

He said that the supplementary agreements with Italy and Spain are "promising," and that the integration agreements with Latin American countries are "very important."

He said that the state, through its embassies and economic advisers "should help Argentine businessmen in their trade efforts in world markets."

He concluded by saying that "the time for decisions has come, and we are ready for a frank and sincere dialogue" on the foreign debt, which he called "a concurrent responsibility." He said that the debtors, the creditors, and their governments "must share the responsibility and the costs."

Caceres Reasserts Army's Institutional Role

PY2910194689 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1400 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Excerpts] Salta, 28 Oct (TELAM)—General Isidro Caceres, chief of the Army staff, has asserted that the Army can be saved if it "adheres to its professional activities." Gen Caceres added that he is aware of the Army's limitations regarding equipment and salaries. He added: "A poor country cannot have a rich army."

Gen Caceres added that his objective is for the Army to respect national institutions and to "defend the nation's sovereignty, its territorial integrity, and the freedom of its citizens."

Gen Caceres said this to TELAM and also during a ceremony in the parade ground of the C5 141st Armored Cavalry Exploration Detachment, which as of 27 October has become the General Martin Miguel de Guemes Armored Cavalry Regiment. [passage omitted]

Caceres told TELAM he hopes the Army will fulfill its institutional role "that it be disciplined, respectful of institutions and of citizens. Each individual must respect all human beings; but as an institution, the Army requests that all citizens understand its national role."

He said: The real unity of the Army lies in the professional work it carries out. An undisciplined Army, one that meddles in politics, can only undermine the health of the nation."

He said: "There is an understanding over what is taking place. There is also a willingness to achieve a reconciliation and a desire to unite with the rest of the Argentine citizens as has been requested by the president, who is also the Armed Forces commander in chief."

Gen Caceres said: "We are willing to take this step, to live peacefully, to be united with our fellow citizens." He

added that there is willingness to participate in the various social sectors and to render assistance in emergency situations.

About Army equipment, Caceres said: "There will come a time when the executive branch will provide us with the funds" but for the time being, the only urgent request "is to repair what we have."

Cavallo Acknowledges Rocket Vector Technology

PY2710165689 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2132 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Oct (NA)—Foreign Minister Domingo Cavallo today announced that Argentina has mastered vector (rocket) [vectores aereos (cohetes)] technology, but "we do not have any armed missiles or plans to have any because we are not pursuing any military objective." Cavallo's announcement represents the first official statement made by the Foreign Ministry on this controversial subject.

During a news conference with foreign journalists, Cavallo asserted that Argentina has no plans to "disseminate" this high technology among the other developing countries. He said that this is "exactly" what President Carlos Menem told U.S. President George Bush during his visit to the United States.

When asked by a Spanish journalist about the degree of development reached by the "Condor II" rocket Cavallo said that "in 1977 Argentina decided to acquire the technology in the specific area for its Armed Forces to develop vectors.

Cavallo noted that "Argentina has already fulfilled that objective" but that "it does not intend to use that technology for bellicose or offensive purposes nor to disseminate it around the world."

The minister added that the country "does not have an armed missile, much less a deployed system. Argentina is not going to make any special effort to disseminate this technology."

Cavallo said the country "is now focusing on the development of technology for the aeronautics industry" based on the modern "Pampa" training aircraft.

This is the first time that an Argentine Government official has admitted that Argentina has mastered this technology. The "Condor II" has been called a rocket. The difference between a missile and a rocket is that the latter does not have a control and guidance system.

The government has so far maintained that the objective of "Condor II" is to launch a satellite into a low-altitude orbit. The rocket, however, can carry either a communications device or a bomb.

The "Condor II" forms the basis of the Argentine space program, which is being implemented by the National Space Research Commission, [words indistinct].

In 1983, Argentina announced that it mastered Uranium-enrichment technology, which can be used to build an atomic bomb. Argentina, however, has never built an atomic device.

The government policy regarding space technology is similar to the policy on nuclear technology. They are both for peaceful use.

Meanwhile, President Menem has designated Roberto Garcia Moritan, director of the Disarmament and Nuclear Affairs Department of the Foreign Ministry, as the new ambassador to the disarmament conference headquartered in Geneva.

Diplomatic sources have said that the decision by Menem (?follows) a policy "to designate specialized diplomats to technical posts," as in this case. Garcia Moritan is a specialist in international security affairs. He has been alternate representative to the disarmament conference since 1981.

The post to which he has been designated was occupied by current Deputy Foreign Minister Mario Campora. According to press reports, the post remained vacant because Menem was thinking of designating Supreme Court Justice Jose Severo Caballero, if he resigned his post.

Peruvian Defense Minister Ends Visit

PY2710170089 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Defense Minister Italo Luder and his Peruvian counterpart Julio Velazquez today visited the Supreme War College in Buenos Aires. Luder and Velazquez reviewed the general staff computer training system.

Later the Peruvian official returned to his country.

Federal Court Sentences Montoneros Leader

PY2810123789 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 27 Oct 89 p 10

[Excerpt] The Buenos Aires Federal Court has sentenced [Montoneros leader] Mario Eduardo Firmenich to life imprisonment and absolute disqualification from holding any public office or exercising political or civil rights for the 13 November 1979 murders of impresario Francisco Soldatti and bodyguard Ricardo M. Duran.

The members of the Federal Court—1989 Court President Mario Gustavo Costa, Juan C. Rodriguez Basavilbaso, and Juan Pedro Cortelezzi—found Firmenich guilty of acting as a principal in the second degree in this crime and in a homicide attempted 6 days later against former Finance Secretary Juan E. Alemann and bodyguards Francisco Cancilieri and Ventura Delfor Mino. The two cases were heard and ruled on together.

The judges also pointed out that these are crimes of murder in the first degree [homicidio calificado] because of the premeditated participation of two or more persons in the separate crime of attempted murder in the first

degree and changed the classification [figura] of Firmenich's crimes from mastermind in the second degree [codeterminante] to principal in the second degree.

As in the case of Firmenich's previous sentencing, which is final because it has been upheld by the Supreme Court, Firmenich will not be imprisoned for more than 30 years in keeping with the requirements imposed on the extradition petition approved by the Brazilian courts. [passage omitted]

Brazil

President Sarney Returns From Costa Rica

PY2810180489 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1610 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Excerpt] President Sarney returned to Brasilia this morning after a 4-day trip to Ecuador and Costa Rica. His plane landed at Brasilia Air Force Base.

The band and red carpet ceremony was suspended because of bad weather. Sarney was welcomed by Pais de Andrade, president of the Chamber of Deputies, the military ministers, Civil Household Chief Ronaldo Costa Couto, and Finance Minister Mailson da Nobrega. [passage omitted]

Itamaraty Spokesman on Drug Effort With Colombia

PY2710121889 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 26 Oct 89

[By reporter Gustavo Mariani from Itamaraty]

[Text] Brazil and Colombia have joined efforts in fighting drug trafficking.

The Colombian drug trafficker who thinks that he will find a haven in Brazil after fleeing his country is mistaken.

This remark was made by Itamaraty spokesman Rui Nogueira, who explained the relations between the two countries in this field.

[Begin Nogueira recording] Brazil and Colombia have an extradition treaty. This means that our country does not represent a comfortable alternative for the drug traffickers who are being sought in that country. Following the talks between Federal Police Chief Romeu Tuma and Colombian authorities, Brazil is willing to gradually increase its cooperation along the Brazilian-Colombian border. [end recording]

The Brazilian police face their biggest problem in fighting drug trafficking when they confront the drug traffickers in dense jungle areas like Amazonia.

Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Visits Sao Paulo

FL2510143189 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 24 Oct 89

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas was warmly received by Sao Paulo authorities and businessmen who are interested in further increasing the growing trade between the two countries.

Sao Paulo is the Brazilian state with the highest percentage of imports and receives the majority of Cuban medications and products.

Cabrisas was received by Sao Paulo Governor Orestes Quercia with whom he discussed bilateral issues and the future opening of a Cuban Consulate in that Brazilian state.

State Government Signs Trade Protocol With Cuba

PY2810143589 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0930 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] The Rio Grande do Sul state government has signed a letter of intent with Cuba for the creation of a joint commission on cooperation and trade. This protocol is the first step toward the creation of a Brazilian-Cuban Chamber of Commerce.

The protocol was signed at Piratini Palace by Celso Magadan, the state's planning and social action secretary, and Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz. Magadan is representing Governor Pedro Simon, who is traveling in the interior.

Cuban Ambassador to Brazil Jorge Alberto Bolanos and Claudio Landolfi, a representative of the Rio Grande do Sul Federation of Industries, also signed the protocol as witnesses.

According to the agreement, Rio Grande do Sul will be able to export equipment to Cuba for industrial kitchens and washing machines; components for shoes, boilers, and industrial ovens; refractory material; central air- conditioning systems; plastic packing material; textile, steel, and petrochemical products; and soybean middlings.

Rio Grande do Sul is interested in importing from Cuba the (Suma) diagnosis system, the microanalytic system, and other products for the health sector.

Presidents of Lusophone Nations To Visit 1-2 Nov

PY2710233089 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] The presidents of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, and Brazil will meet in Sao Luis de Maranhao on 1-2 November. The meeting of the presidents of Portuguese-speaking nations is meant to strengthen diplomatic ties among these nations and is part of the commemoration of the centennial of the Brazilian Republic.

Sarney Dismisses SUDAM President Kayath

PY2710133089 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Oct 89 p C-4

[Summary] President Jose Sarney on 24 October dismissed Henry Kayath, president of the Superintendency for Developing the Amazon Region—SUDAM—on negligence and dishonesty charges.

Interest on Internal Debt Doubles

PY2710143089 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Oct 89 p 4

[Text] Brasilia—In 1989 the government will pay a real interest rate of 10 percent on its internal debt. The government will thus spend twice as much on interest as last year, when the interest rate after inflation neared 5 percent. This obligation is the largest component of the 1989 public deficit, which is forecast to be 3.9 percent of the Gross National Product [GNP]. The 1990 deficit is budgeted at 2.4 percent with lower real interest rates.

The public deficit would have been 1.2 percent of the GNP if the government had maintained the 1989 interest levels. This deficit would have been less than the 2 percent target set by the government in its "adjustment and modernization program" after Mailson da Nobrega took over last year. All these figures are set in tables on "public deficit financing needs" that the SEPLAN [Secretariat of Planning] included in its study on fiscal policy that was revealed yesterday.

The operational results are obtained by adding the debt bills and revenues to the primary results, which according to the government have yielded surpluses in three of their main financing need components: the national budget (which is divided into fiscal and social security budgets), the states and municipal governments' budgets, and the state enterprises' budgets.

The national budget surplus of 1 percent of the GNP becomes a 3.4 percent operational deficit when combined with debt obligations. Again, if the 1989 interest rates were the same as those of 1988, the national budget deficit would have been 0.7 percent of the GNP. According to SEPLAN, the deficit obligations in 1989 will represent 5.4 percent of the GNP—exactly double the 2.7 percent that was paid in 1988.

According to a SEPLAN expert, the 1989 surpluses are being obtained by "strict and austere budgets" because some lines of revenue in the 1989 budget were not exploited as well as they should have been. The tax collection effort that was planned to yield a surplus of 1.8 percent of the GNP cannot be fully implemented because of changes in income tax policy that were introduced during the year.

Seplan experts do not expect to have the same problem next year because according to the new Constitution, the spending of different programs will depend on the approval by Congress of the "tax package."

Details of Secret Army Graphite Reactor Disclosed

PY2710125889 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 24 Oct 89 p A-6

[By Tainia Malheiros]

[Excerpt] The Army Technological Center [Centro Tecnologico do Exercito—CETEX], in Guaratiba (west of Rio de Janeiro), has begun building an experimental reactor, according to the information obtained by FOLHA. The TECMAT [expansion unkonwn] enterprise was set up on the President Dutra highway, in Nova Iguacu (Baixada Fluminense, 30 km from Rio) approximately 2 years ago with the support of CETEX to produce the graphite bars necessary for the reactor. Plutonium can be obtained from graphite reactors, and after being recycled can be used to make atomic bombs. The National Commission for Nuclear Energy (CNEN) is participating in the CETEX project, which started 8 years ago and which was being kept secret.

TECMAT President Antonio Carlos Didier Barbosa Vianna, who is a 65-year-old Navy reserve officer, yesterday said that the reactor is still just a project and that its construction should be completed within the next 5 years. He said that the first graphite bars were delivered to CETEX in March and April 1968. In 1962 Didier headed the project and the construction of the Argonauta research reactor, which used 93 percent national technology. He said that at that time Brazil had to import graphite from France and uranium from the United States. He then added: "We still have some, and we are no longer dependent."

About 8 years ago CNEN decided that the Navy was to be responsible for the uranium enrichment project that is being developed by the Experimental Center in Aramar, in Ipero (125 km west of Sao Paulo). Didier said that at that time the CNEN "decided it was better" to make CETEX responsible for the technology to obtain graphite. According to him, CETEX built the pilot plant and supplied the basic technological information for the establishment of TECMAT. The enterprise uses an area of approximately 40,000 square meters and the constructed area occupies 11,000 square meters.

Didier added that when it was disclosed that the Navy had mastered uranium enrichment technology 2 years ago, exports to Brazil of any nuclear material were blocked. Didier explained that "we no longer received supplies of the anode (positive electrode) graphite bars used to conduct electricity to heat the hexafluoride [hexafluotero] (uranium in gaseous form) compartment." He added that TECMAT this year tested the first graphite bars approved by CETEX and asserted that "the final touches are being made." [passage omitted]

New Central Bank President, Official Named

PY2610135289 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 25 Oct 89 p 23

[Text] President Jose Sarney yesterday appointed Wadico Waldir Bucchi as the president of the Central

Bank. The Senate yesterday approved the nomination of Francisco Amadeu Pires Felix, the current chief of the Open Market Transaction Department, as director of the Central Bank Public Foreign Debt Department.

The nomination of Bucchi and Amadeu will normalize the Central Bank administration. Bucchi has been the acting Central Bank president and the acting director of the Central Bank Public Foreign Debt Department since Elmo Camoes was dismissed in June 1989.

Chile

Errazuriz Meets Hungarian Industry Minister

PY2610123489 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Hungarian Industry Minister Ferenc Horvath said today that the economic and political reforms taking place in his country represent the definite death of Stalinism and the complete failure of the Communist system.

Horvath, who arrived in Santiago last night, made this comment at the Foreign Ministry after meeting with Foreign Minister Hernan Felipe Errazuriz. Horvath was accompanied by the Hungarian Consul General [name indistinct].

Horvath said that he talked with Errazuriz on the need to expand bilateral trade. He also said that they agreed to cooperate in the multilateral forums. [passage omitted]

Sends Greetings to Hungary

PY2610162689 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Felipe Errazuriz has sent a letter to his Hungarian counterpart Gyula Horn following the proclamation of the Republic of Hungary. The message states as follows:

Given the proclamation of the Republic of Hungary on such a meaningful date for your country, please accept my cordial greetings and wishes of peace and prosperity for the Hungarian people in the historical phase that is beginning.

[Signed] Hernan Felipe Errazuriz, Foreign Minister.

Labbe on 'Manipulation' of Human Rights Issue

PY2710012189 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Excerpt] Colonel Christian Labbe, the minister secretary general of government, has criticized the political manipulation of the human rights issue. He also termed as highly dangerous the fact that there are people who wish to dismantle all the work done by the Chilean people; that is, the institutional system currently in force.

Regarding the subject on human rights, Minister Labbe expressed his regret that there are people who have forgotten the true violations that Chileans suffered under the Popular Unity government.

[Begin Labbe recording] The Popular Unity party and all its members dramatically violated the human rights of all Chilean citizens during their administration. The national community should remember this and be fully aware of how human rights were violated during those times. Human rights violations were taking place on a massive scale and were an insult to the Chilean people. Today there seems to be a double standard regarding human rights, and I think this is unacceptable. Terrorism and violence in our country have experienced two very clear phases. The first phase was aimed at attaining power, and it was violent. Once they came to power the violence grew; the human rights of all citizens were violated. You must not forget that there was a murder plot. Back then President Allende said: War and struggle to the death. That was the situation of terrorism and violence that violated human rights and brought the country to the brink of civil war. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Buchi Supporters Urge Aylwin To Reject Violence

PY2710215289 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] The management team for the electoral campaign of independent candidate Hernan Buchi has once again demanded that opposition candidate Patricio Aylwin reject the support of all parties or movements that advocate violence as a means for political struggle.

In a 4-point public declaration, Buchi's electoral team voices its satisfaction over the fact that Aylwin's political committee has heard the appeal to reject violence by inviting the various sectors to repudiate it and give signs of reconciliation among the Chilean people.

Moreover, Buchi's electoral team has stated that the Coalition of Parties for Democracy must also urge its supporters to stop their counterdemonstrations or other forms of aggression against Buchi's supporters.

The communique then says that the current electoral process should be a model of respect, tolerance, and civic maturity.

Further, it says that the attacks perpetrated by Aylwin's supporters stain the image of the Chilean democracy and cause innocent victims.

The communique ends by saying that Aylwin's electoral team's appeal to stop acts of violence will lack credibility if these two moves for reconciliation are not made because, in their opinion, Aylwin's allies do not have clean hands.

National Vanguard Party Gets New Vice President

PY2610163289 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Denise Barroilhet de Lopez Blanco, a former candidate for deputy for the 17th District, has been installed as vice president of the National Vanguard Party, replacing Carlos Portales.

The ceremony took place at the headquarters of the National Vanguard Party where Lopez Blanco said that there are many ways in which to serve the country without being a congress member.

The new vice president said that the main task of her party is to support the congress candidates by touring each region, from street to street and house to house if necessary.

PCCh Protests Kidnapping of Teitelboim's Driver

PY2710215089 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] The Chilean Communist Party [PCCh] holds the National Intelligence Center [CNI] responsible for the kidnapping of Ricardo Zeballos, driver of PCCh Secretary General Volodia Teitelboim. Zeballos was drugged and questioned on the activities of the main PCCh leaders.

The accusation was made this morning by PCCh spokesman Jose Sanfuentes, who was accompanied by Jaime Inzunza and Hugo Miranda, president of the Radical Socialist Democratic party.

Ricardo Zeballos was kidnapped and drugged on 26 October at dawn by CNI agents dressed in civilian clothes. This assault results from the increase in popularity of Patricio Aylwin and opposition candidates to congress.

[Begin Sanfuentes recording] We accuse the CNI and the Pinochet regime ot abetting these terrorist factions. We hold the dictatorship responsible for any act of violence agaist any member of our party, or any leftist party, or the opposition in general.

This terrorist plan of the dictatorship surely demonnnstrates the need to remain alert in defense of the activities of the political campaign conducted by candidates and leaders of popular and democratic organizations. [end recording]

Sanfuentes said that General Pinochet and other government members have passed from threats to action by exerting pressure and persecuting opposition leaders and professionals. He mentioned the cases of Judge Rene Garcia Villegas, candidate for deputy Graciela Ortiz, and Claudina Nunez, as well as the raids on the offices of the PPD [Party for Democracy], the Christian Democratic Party, and the Broad Party of the Socialist Left, as well as the hundreds of detained opposition propaganda. [sentence as heard]

The PCCh leader said that the government's attempts to scare opposition figures will be in vain. All these problems prompt us to redouble our joint work to achieve the triumph of presidential candidate Patricio Aylwin and the opposition candidates to congress, Sanfuentes declared.

Pinochet Promotes Generals, Colonels

PY2710203489 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet has said that nothing that occurs in Chile can be ignored by the Armed Forces, which cannot overlook their duty to guarantee national institutional order. Pinochet made this statement during a speech he gave last night in O'Higgins Hall of Government House, as he bade farewell to the generals who are retiring and congratulated 13 others who were promoted this week.

As he bade farewell to General Jorge Zincke, President Pinochet said that in addition to his military virtues, Gen Zincke's moral integrity made him an exemplary soldier, thus allowing him to be promoted to a rank attained by few Army members.

President Pinochet referred in similar terms to General Jorge Lucar Figueroa, new deputy commander in chief. Gen Lucar has been promoted to major general. Lucar belongs to the telecommunications branch.

In another part of his speech, the president said that the next phase will depend on the goodwill of the Chilean people. This will demand sacrifices from the Armed Forces, especially from the high-ranking officers who today are being promoted to general.

Finally, President Pinochet said that it is essential to remain alert in face of any either open or concealed attempt to introduce foreign ideas among the Chilean people, especially the military.

The president stressed that the antipatriotic attitudes will be judged by history but meanwhile, he added, we will not allow the slightest opportunity for the implantation of foreign ideas in our institutional order.

Newly promoted are Generals Luis Patricio Serre, (Luis Enriquez Riffo), Rodrigo Sanchez Casillas, (Jorge Valerino Sanford), Raul Iturriaga Neumann, Alejandro Gonzalez Samohod, Patricio Varela Saldias, Javier Salazar Torres, Carlos Krumm Rojas, Jose Carreras Rivera, Jorge Lagos Silva. Colonels German Kulmann-Holtz and Fernando Torres Silva were promoted to brigadier general.

New Metropolitan Army Commander Sworn In

PY2610124689 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Oct 89

[Summary] During a ceremony at the Defense Ministry today Brigadier General Carlos Parera Silva was sworn in as the new commander of the Army garrison in the

metropolitan area. He replaces General Alejandro Gonzalez Samohod, who has been appointed military chief of the southern zone, headquartered in Punta Arenas.

FPMR Bombs Army Recruiting Center in Santiago

PY2810185489 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Excerpts] A small bomb explosion has destroyed some windows and a small section of the Army recruiting office at 1887 Sazie Street in Santiago. The bomb exploded a little past midnight at Army Recuiting Center No 26 in the Estacion Central neighborhood.

Area residents, who also had their windows damaged by the explosion, have reported that a Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front flag was left with the bomb. [passage omitted]

Carabineros personnel arrived to conduct the appropriate on-site investigation. There was no report on casualties or on the bomb damage to the building.

* Correction to Official Senate List Announcement

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The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Official Senate Candidate List Announced," published in the 17 October Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 52,:

Page 52, table, second column heading should read: Coalition of Political Parties for Democracy (changing heading)

Colombia

Barco Comments on Coffee Pact, Summit

PA2910063189 Paris AFP in Spanish 0116 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] San Andres Island, Colombia, 28 Oct (AFP)—President Virgilio Barco has expressed great pleasure over the summit that was held in Costa Rica and said that the seed has been sown to renew the world coffee agreement.

During an unexpected visit to this island in the Colombian Caribbean region, Barco inspected social infrastructure works and said that he took advantage of the summit in Costa Rica to talk separately about the coffee agreement and drug trafficking with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez.

He also emphasized the respect with which the heads of state attending the San Jose meeting listened to his proposals regarding the struggle against the drug mafias and said that Colombia has won a place in the defense of democracy.

Barco disclosed that during the meeting in Costa Rica he talked with Salvadoran President Cristiani about the struggle Colombia is waging against drug trafficking.

He said that he discussed with Perez the results of the efforts by the national commissions on border matters that were appointed by the two governments on 28 March and agreed on the need to work jointly against the drug trafficking scourge.

President Barco, who returned this very night to Bogota, disclosed that he and Jorge Cardenas, general manager of the National Federation of Coffee Growers, met privately with Canadian Prime Minister Mulroney and told him of the need to reactivate the world coffee agreement.

They also raised the urgency of continuing the fight against drugs with the important assistance of drug-consuming nations.

Mulroney expressed pleasure at joining the OAS and reiterated that his country will continue helping Colombia fight the narcotics trade, Barco explained.

In another development, a communique from the Presidency of the Republic revealed tonight, as a curious fact, that at the San Jose summit—which closed today—"Barco was a witness to the greeting U.S. President George Bush and Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega gave each other because he was standing next to the U.S. President at that moment."

Further on Summit Interaction

PA2910150089 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1218 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota—Colombian President Virgilio Barco Vargas commented on the scope of the agreement in principle reached in Costa Rica by the American coffee-producing countries to seek the reactivation of the international coffee pact. He also commented on the support Colombia received from the international community in its war on organized crime.

Upon returning to Bogota last night, Barco told newsmen that the Central American countries and Brazil agreed with Colombia's view that an alternative must be sought to the situation created by the free coffee market. He admitted that the steps to be taken soon will not be easy but was confident the next meeting will yield positive results.

In addition, Barco denied that governors would be replaced or that Economic Development Minister Carlos Arturo Marulanda would step down. He said that he will wait for Marulanda to return from the United States before making a final decision. On recent disruptions of public order in the country, the president described them as deplorable actions that often occur.

In conclusion, Barco did not rule out Colombia as the host of the next meeting planned by the presidents of

Bolivia, Peru, and Ecuador to expand on U.S. President George Bush's antidrug plan.

M-19 Agrees to Demobilization, Disarmament

PA2710150489 Paris AFP in Spanish 0731 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 26 Oct (AFP)—The Colombian Government and the M-19 [19 April Movement] guerrillas reached an agreement today for the demobilization and disarming of the group, Deputy Interior Minister Jose Noe Rios has reported.

This marks the end of over 15 years of fighting by the M-19, which after returning to democratic life intends to become a political party.

The agreement was reached during a meeting held by delegates from the executive branch, from the subversive organization, and from the ruling Liberal Party, under the guidance of the Catholic Church.

"We have fully reached an agreement and the decision to sign a political pact. The date will be revealed in a news conference on 27 October," Rios said.

He added that "the important thing to point out is that a full agreement was reached and that we have recommended a political pact be signed to ensure the return of the M-19 to civilian life."

The negotiations between the government and the M-19 leadership began approximately a year ago after the rebels decreed a unilateral truce, which allowed them to receive authorization to gather in Santo Domingo, in the mountains of Cauca Department in the southwestern part of the country.

The first steps within the peace process have already been taken by the Simon Bolivar Guerrilla Coordinating Board, which comprises the remaining extremist groups, except the Army of National Liberation [pro-Castroite ELN], which is determined to carry out dynamite attacks on the country's oil industry infrastructure, the nationalization of which it is demanding.

To Sign Agreement 2 Nov

PA2810020089 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2346 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 27 Oct (DPA)—The Colombian Government and the guerrilla 19 April Movement (M-19) will sign on Thursday, 2 November a political agreement "for peace and democracy" that will be one of the last steps in the reconciliation process being implemented by the two sides since early this year.

Spokesmen of the groups participating in the peace dialogue said today in an official communique that there is "a consensus" on the proposals presented at the "work tables," the name given to the negotiations method.

The government and the M-19 have been discussing since January the mechanisms for a consensus which allows the rebel group to demobilize its forces and put down its weapons.

The M-19 was created in 1974 under "a nationalist, not Marxist" ideology, according to its leaders, and it will become a legally registered group—probably before year's end—to participate in the next elections (for parliament, municipal council, and department assembly members), which are scheduled for March 1990.

The communique states that the Executive Branch, the rebel movement, and the government's Liberal Party will invite all the other rebel groups in Colombia to participate in a peace dialogue and seek political solutions to the armed conflict prevailing in the country.

A definite agreement between the two parties will be signed immediately after the parliament, which will be in session until 16 December, approves a constitutional reform including the referendum in the Magna Carta—a provision demanded by the M-19 before it returns to civilian life.

To Surrender Weapons 25 Dec

PA2910192789 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1820 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] The M-19 today officially confirmed that it will surrender its weapons on 25 December to rejoin civilian life. The commanders of this armed group confirmed their decision today.

Government Increases Reward for Drug Lord Capture

PA2810013389 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2343 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 27 Oct (EFE)—The Colombian Government today increased by 150 percent the reward offered to anyone giving information on the whereabouts of Medellin drug cartel bosses Pablo Escobar Gaviria and Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, alias "the Mexican."

The announcement was made today by General Miguel Maza Marquez, director of the Administrative Department of Security (DAS), or secret police.

On 30 August, Colombians learned by means of institutional advertisements on national television that a reward of 100 million pesos ($250,000) was being offered to anyone who could give information leading to the capture of Escobar Gaviria, 39, and the Mexican, 42.

The reward campaign has continued on television, as well as through flyers throughout Colombia, but, beginning today, the reward was increased to the new amount of 250 million pesos (approximately $520,000).

The advertisements on the official reward "guarantee" "absolute confidentiality" on the part of the government to anyone who gives information about the hiding places where the top Medellin Cartel leaders can be arrested.

Under the photographs of the two drug lords, the government lists six telephone numbers to provide the information and indicates that calls outside Bogota are "free of charge" to the informers.

Gen Maza said that the security corps have continued to reap excellent results from the struggle against the drug mafias and "will not rest until they have securely in custody the leaders of the groups that are trying to destabilize the institutions" in the country.

The government of Colombian President Virgilio Barco, of the Liberal Party, declared "total war" on the drug trafficking on 18 August, when the mafias committed several murders, and announced the resumption of the extradition of drug traffickers to the United States, as well as the confiscation of their properties. Since that day the authorities have captured 16 drug traffickers, 4 of whom have already been extradited to the United States.

The first drug trafficker was extradited to that country on 7 September. He was Eduardo Martinez Romero, who is allegedly the treasurer of the Medellin Cartel.

Twelve other drug traffickers are awaiting the issuance of an administrative order to be taken to the United States.

Government Orders Arrest of 6 Drug Traffickers

PA2810015189 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2040 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 27 Oct (DPA)—The Colombian Government issued warrants today for the arrest of six alleged drug traffickers indicted in the United States on charges of distributing cocaine in that country.

The Justice Ministry measure goes against Jorge de la Cuesta Marquez, the chief pilot of the powerful Medellin Cartel; Eduardo Mera Mosquera; Robert Sokolowsky; Nelson Cuevas Ramirez; and Roberto and Diana Caballero Rangel, who are brother and sister.

The extradition of mafia members via the executive branch is one of the main weapons the Bogota government possesses in its struggle against the cocaine cartels, who have been the authors of many criminal attacks in Colombia in recent weeks.

Since 6 September, four drug traffickers, including Eduardo Martinez Romero, the "financial boss" of the Medellin Cartel, have been taken before U.S. federal courts.

Army Reports Drug Kingpins' War 'Neutralized'

PA3010022889 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Oct 89 pp 1A, 8A.

[Text] A Colombian Army general told EL TIEMPO on 20 October: "The drug traffickers' destabilization and all-out war plan has been neutralized and largely wrecked. This sums up the most important conclusions reached by approximately 40 high-ranking Army, Air Force, Navy, and police officers who attended a military officers meeting convened by Defense Minister General Oscar Botero Restrepo.

According to the report handed in by each commander, the military and police intelligence services learned that the drug traffickers had ordered a gigantic offensive in reprisal for the "all-out war" that the government decreed late in August.

With these actions by organized crime, the drug traffickers "attempted to destabilize the country and create panic." The top military leaders, however, believe that though "a large-scale offensive had been planned, the events that occurred were not of the anticipated scale and importance."

This military summit especially recognized the intelligence work carried out by the country's various military and police garrisons. This work made it possible to detect many terrorist actions before they occurred or while they were in progress.

"The balance is very positive. We anticipated much more effective actions, which were nevertheless rendered ineffectual since the beginning. It has been reported to us that 17 terrorist gangs have been disbanded," another source of the Defense Ministry said.

The commanders of Army divisions and brigades, Colombian Air Force and naval bases, Marines, Specific Command, Navy, and police were instructed on what to do.

In a 2-hour lecture, Minister Botero and Armed Forces Commander General Nelson Mejia Henao ordered troops and police patrols to remain in the areas where narcoterrorists have perpetrated the most violent actions.

The operational sections of all agencies will be responsible for surveillance and protection at the so-called critical points.

Similarly, brigade and police commanders should intensify their actions against drug trafficking kingpins. "On instructions by President Virgilio Barco, we have to keep the pressure of the operations on at all times," the defense minister finally said.

Medellin Cartel Leader Reportedly Extradited

PA2910143789 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1259 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] The Colombian Government has extradited to the United States five [number as heard] individuals within the last few hours, including Jose Rafael Avello Silva, also known as El Mono Avello. The authorities reported that Avello is wanted by a U.S. court for committing many crimes, including conspiracy and complicity in crimes against the U.S. economy.

The government of President Virgilio Barco Vargas reopened the process of extradition via administrative channels after the law on extraditions was struck down by the Supreme Court.

The authorities reported that El Mono Avello, who is the leading figure in the so-called Medellin Cartel, was extradited this morning at 0530. He left aboard a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration plane.

The following are awaiting extradition: (Guillermo Bono Delgado); Manuel Julian Palma; Victor Eduardo Vera Mosquera; commercial pilot Ricardo de la Cuesta Marquez; (Robert James Sokolowsky Salak); Nelson Cuevas Ramirez; and Evaristo Porras.

The Colombian authorities also reported that Emilio Reynosa Aguilar was expelled yesterday from the country. He is wanted by the Peruvian courts, and there was also a request for his extradition. However, the Colombian and Peruvian Governments agreed that it was best to expel Reynosa Aguilar from Colombia. He is wanted by two Lima courts for helping prisoners escape and for other crimes.

On 6 September, President Virgilio Barco Vargas extradited economist Eduardo Martinez Romero to a court in Atlanta, Georgia. The U.S. authorities charged Martinez Romero with laundering approximately $1.2 billion from the sale of illegal drugs.

Later, at 0330 on 14 September, the following were extradited: Ana Elena Beatriz Rodriguez Tamayo, Eduardo Pelaez Roldan, and Italian citizen (Roberto Victor Carlini Aroca).

The government of Virgilio Barco Vargas decided to carry out administrative extraditions on 18 August, following the assassinations of Colonel Waldemar Franklin Quintero, commander of the Antioquia Police, and Luis Carlos Galan, a senator and presidential hopeful for the Liberal Party.

'Extraditables' Claim Responsibility for Bomb

PA2910031189 Paris AFP in Spanish 2116 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 28 Oct (AFP)—"The Extraditables" clandestine group today claimed responsibility for last night's dynamite attack on a police air base at Guaimaral, 25 km to the north of Bogota, killing a noncommissioned officer.

Through anonymous phone calls to various media in the northeast of Medellin, Antioquia Province, the Extraditables claimed responsibility for placing a bomb inside one of the small airport's bathrooms.

The Extraditables are comprised of the main Colombian drug trafficking capos, who, through violent acts, attempt to make the government give up on its decision to extradite them to the United States.

The authorities are saying nothing about the attack and denied newsmen access to the terminal. The airport houses aircraft used by antinarcotics police.

Rodriguez Gacha Reportedly Behind Galan's Murder

PA2910234489 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] The Director of the Administrative Department of Security Gen Miguel Alfredo Maza Marquez told reporters that Jose Gonzalez Rodriguez Gacha, alias the Mexican, is one of the masterminds behind the killing of presidential candidate Senator Luis Carlos Galan. He said that five groups had been studying the senator's security system to plan his murder. He also said that Alberto Jubis Halbun killed Galan.

Two TV Reporters Shot in Downtown Bogota

PA2910203989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1959 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 29 Oct 89 (DPA)—Gunmen today attacked Jorge Enrique Pulido and Jimena Godoy, who were "seriously wounded" and taken to a Bogota hospital, private radio station Radio Cadena Nacional reported citing police sources.

According to preliminary reports, Pulido, director of television newscast "World Vision" ["Mundovision"] and, Godoy, an anchorwoman for the same newscast, were shot in Bogota's downtown area by two men riding a motorcycle.

The reporters were leaving state-owned Inravision television, which broadcasts the "World Vision" newscast, when they were hit by machine-gun fire. A sister of Pulido's was unhurt in the attack.

So far, no criminal organization has claimed responsibility for this attack, although the authorities believe the drug traffickers, who swore to kill judges and reporters for each extradited criminal, may have perpetrated the action.

This morning, Jose Rafael Avello Silva, the powerful Medellin Cartel leader, was sent to the United States.

Four Policemen Die in Bus Explosion in Medellin

PA2710033189 Paris AFP in Spanish 0213 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Medellin, Colombia, 26 Oct (AFP)—Official spokesmen reported that 4 policemen were killed, and at least 40 others were seriously wounded this evening when a police bus was blown up with dynamite in the northeast part of this city, the second largest in Colombia.

According to initial versions, the bomb, made with about 20 kg of explosives, was detonated by remote control by

a group of unidentified people riding in a white Monza automobile. All the city's secret services began searching for the automobile.

Further on Attack

PA2710161389 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Medellin—Five policemen were killed and at least 13 others injured during a dynamite attack on a Metropolitan Police bus that was carrying relief personnel. It took place in Medellin's northwestern area the evening of 26 October.

The dead were identified as bus driver Jose Manuel Ruiz Rey, policemen Gustavo Arias Rivera, Elvin Enrique Asprilla, Juan Carlos Patino, and two policemen surnamed Valencia and Rios.

None of the men in uniform died at the attack site. The injured were initially taken to the Pablo Teodoro Vive hospital only two blocks from there, but they died later.

Other policemen were later transferred to the municipal polyclinic. The following have been identified: Francisco Espinosa Belandia, Cesar Martinez Aguirre, Ricardo Barragan Soto, Jose Garzon Perez, and Heriberto Carreno Sierra. Also among the injured are Jose Eliecer Garzon, Jose Antonio Quintero Eslava, Jose Luis Medina Castrellon, Jose Luis Rincon Caicedo, Ruben Londono Velez, and Corporal Jose Martinez Molina.

Authorities of Antioquia Department's capital as yet have no clues on who masterminded and perpetrated a dynamite attack carried out the evening of 26 October against a metropolitan police bus at the intersection of 80th Avenue and 78th Street in the Bello Horizonte neighborhood, western Medellin.

Policemen Killed Outside Consulate in Medellin

PA2710163089 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2029 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Medellin (Colombia) 26 Oct (DPA)—Two policemen guarding the Ecuadoran Consulate in Medellin were killed today by unidentified gunmen, it was officially reported.

Police spokesmen reported that the two policemen were guarding the diplomatic mission when three men walking nearby, in downtown Medellin, began firing at them. The authorities said they do not know who is responsible or the reasons for these killings.

UP Leader Santamaria Killed in Antioquia

PA2810024889 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0004 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Gabriel Jaime Santamaria, president of Antioquia Department's Patriotic Union [UP] and vice president of the assembly of that department, was in his assembly office at 1530 when several men entered and shot him to death. Santamaria's bodyguard managed to fatally shoot one of the assassins. According to a report, the killers passed through the security point by telling the doorman that a high-ranking figure and his bodyguards were entering. Other people said that the killers had been waiting for the assemblyman for several hours. After an intensive investigation and some shooting, the Metropolitan Police arrested three suspects who are now under interrogation.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] When things calmed down, we went in to see what was happening. We found his body slumped in his chair; most of the bullets were in his left side. [end recording]

Gabriel Jaime Santamaria was the first vice president of Antioquia's Assembly. He had received a degree in industrial engineering from the Autonomous University. He was married to Consuelo Arvelaez and had two daughters. Because of constant death threats and two foiled murder attempts, he had left the country but returned a few months ago. Along with Councilman Gonzalo Alvarez, he was one of the UP's most sought after politicians. However, he always refused to forsake his political mission which began when the UP was founded in 1985. This new crimes raises to more than 800 the number of UP members killed all over the country.

[Begin Santamaria recording from 17 December 1987] The movement must go on. Men die, but movements are immortal. We are going to move ahead, organizing, educating, and getting people ready. [end recording]

8 Killed in Violence in Antioquia Department

PA2810140089 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Medellin—Five women were murdered and their bodies thrown from a moving vehicle early this morning in El Poblado neighborhood of Medellin. Three young men were gunned down by hired gunmen in a public establishment in Bello Norte municipality.

The body of Deputy Gabriel Jaime Santamaria Montoya continues to lie in state at the Antioquia Departmental assembly where the Patriotic Union leader was assassinated on 27 October.

Bombs Explode in Bogota, Popayan; No Casualties

PA2910184889 Paris AFP in Spanish 1811 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota, 29 Oct (AFP)—Two medium-intensity bombs exploded last night in Bogota and Popayan causing significant property damage but no casualties, the Metropolitan Police reported today.

The police said that a 5-kg dynamite charge with a safety fuse exploded in a neighborhood southwest of Bogota,

damaging several business establishments and residences in the area. No one was killed or injured as a result of the explosion.

Another bomb went off in Popayan, capital of the southeastern province of Cauca, a few blocks from where a political meeting was being held, without causing any casualties. The blast damaged nearby buildings.

Dynamite Attack Damages Telephone Exchange

PA2710171489 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Bogota—A dynamite attack that took place the evening of 26 October at the Olaya telephone subexchange in the southern area of the capital left one person injured and heavy structural damage.

According to a report released by the authorities, unidentified individuals, who were seen in a Renault 4, planted an explosive device at the subexchange at the intersection of Caracas Avenue and South 23d Street. The facilities were seriously damaged, and one person was injured.

This was the second terrorist attack on the Olaya telephone subexchange in less than a month.

Two other dynamite attacks took place at banks where two individuals were injured.

Ecuador

Borja Describes San Jose Summit as 'Brilliant'

PA2910160989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1429 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Quito, 29 October (DPA)—Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja today described the continental summit held in Costa Rica as "brilliant" and expressed his confidence that it will "produce a change in U.S. foreign policy toward Latin America and the Caribbean."

"All the basic subjects were discussed," Borja said upon returning to Ecuador last night following a 48-hour visit to San Jose.

Borja returned with his right leg in a cast and walking with difficulty on crutches due to a muscle sprain suffered during a tennis match he and Argentine President Carlos Menem played against U.S. President George Bush and his Secretary of State James Baker.

Borja said that the Latin American presidents "conveyed to President Bush our countries' concerns on subjects such as foreign debt and protectionism."

In addition, Borja confirmed that there will soon be a meeting of coffee-producing countries to define a strategy to reactivate the coffee pact as a mechanism to halt the price drop.

"Undoubtedly, the result of the meeting was positive," Borja stressed.

Hopes for U.S. Policy Change

PA3010031389 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0125 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Text] Guayaquil (Ecuador), 29 Oct (EFE)—Upon his return from Costa Rica, Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja, a social democrat, said that he hopes for a change in U.S. policy toward Latin America and the Caribbean following the presidential "summit" which ended yesterday.

Borja returned to Ecuador with a flashy cast on one leg needed after he tore a muscle while playing doubles in a tennis match in which he and Argentine President Carlos Menem played against U.S. President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker.

The Ecuadoran president described as "brilliant" the meeting of presidents and emphasized that it was an opportunity for the presidents of the region "to express our concerns to President Bush with regard to the debt and drug trafficking and the industrialized countries' trade and protectionism."

Borja disclosed that Bush told him that the discussion of these topics "was going to make him reflect and that it would help in assessing Latin America."

Borja, Sarney Sign Cooperation Agreements

PA2710134589 Paris AFP in Spanish 2329 GMT 26 Oct 89

[Text] Quito, 26 Oct (AFP)—Brazilian President Jose Sarney and Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja warned today that the foreign debt problem is a "threat" to social and political peace and to development.

In a joint statement signed at midday today, hours before Sarney ended his 28-hour official visit to Ecuador, both presidents reiterated the criteria of dual responsibility for debtors and lender countries "in seeking effective means" to reduce the debt and its service and to renew the flow of financial resources to developing countries.

"The increase in collective regional and continental efforts is of vital importance to overcome the obstacles hindering the economy, which is crucial to reverse the economic stagnation that most Latin American and Caribbean countries are in," they said.

During Sarney's visit, the foreign ministers of both countries signed an amendment to a previous program of technical cooperation in naval industry and civil construction, signed a cultural and education cooperation agreement, an agreement to modernize the organizations in charge of foreign relations, and a protocol of intent covering commercial cooperation.

The last agreement seeks to balance trade, which reached $141.7 million in 1988, with a $120.6 million deficit for Ecuador.

Mechanisms were examined, such as trading Ecuadoran products to third party markets and taking advantage of the Brazilian structure.

Sarney announced that Brazil granted Ecuador an automatic annual 50-percent increase to the fixed quotas of products appearing on the list of market opportunities, within the framework of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI).

Additionally, a mixed commission is to be formed in 1990 to seek to resolve the delayed repayment by Ecuador of Brazilian loans amounting to $250 million.

The presidents expressed their willingess to examine financing the first stage of the Daule-Peripa reservoir, on the Santa Elena peninsula, which will irrigate 50,000 hectares, to be built by the Brazilian firm Obredech.

Regarding this project, which will cost $122 million, and other infrastructure projects to which Brazil is willing to grant additional loans, "we have not talked about amounts," Borja declared.

The presidents also agreed to establish a basic technical cooperation plan for 1990-91 to outline development programs.

The presidents stressed the "excellent relations" between the two countries; their support for the treaty for Amazonian cooperation; "the exercise of their sovereign rights;" their willingness to encourage development, preserve the environment, strengthen bilateral cooperation in the Amazon, and support the road between the Pacific and Atlantic through that area.

Borja supported Brazil's desire to host the world conference on the environment, scheduled for 1990, and exprerssed thanks for Brazil's support for Ecuador's wish to be a consulting member of the Antarctic treaty. The Ecuadoran-Brazilian declaration also expessed "its conviction that the democratic system is essential to preserve peace, attain development and social justice, guarantee full respect for human rights, and boost cooperation and integration among peoples."

In another turn of events, the presidents stated "their rejection of all forms of terrorism" and reaffirmed their resolve to struggle against drug trafficking and to face this threat to social and political stability. They expressed "their solidarity with the Colombian Government and people for their firm and decisive struggle against this problem."

Finally, the presidents spoke out on "seeking a negotiated solution" in Central America, expressing their concern over the Panama situation, pointing to the need for the struggling sides to "restart talks." They also reiterated their governments' desire to adhere to the fundamental principles of international coexistence.

Sarney and Borja will depart this afternoon for San Jose to attend the celebration of Costa Rica's 100 years of democracy.

Colombian Drug Trafficker's Nephew Arrested

PA2710195289 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1820 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Guayaquil, 27 October (DPA)—The Ecuadoran police arrested Colombian Gustavo Gaviria Mejia, presumed drug trafficker and nephew of Medellin Cartel drug kingpin Pablo Escobar Gaviria, in Guayaquil the night of 26 October.

The Quito newspaper HOY has reported that Gustavo Gaviria was with other presumed drug traffickers—two Colombians and two Ecuadoreans—and that a half a kilo of cocaine hydrochlorate was found in Gaviria's possession.

According to the police report, the five persons arrested "are being investigated to determine their presumed responsibility in the crime of drug trafficking." The place where the men are being detained has been kept secret.

At the beginning of the month, the Ecuadoran police arrested Evaristo Porras, another alleged Colombian drug cartel godfather, and he was later extradited to Colombia.

Paraguay

Rodriguez Letter to Costa Rica's Arias

PY2810013289 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 27 Oct 89 pp 12, 13

["Letter" sent to Costa Rican President Oscar Arias by President General Andres Rodriguez on the occasion of the centennial of Democracy in Costa Rica 27-28 October]

[Text] Your Excellency, Mr President: I have been honored by your invitation to attend a meeting of presidents and heads of state to be held in your noble and hospitable country on 27-28 October to mark the centennial of democracy in Costa Rica.

I am very sorry that matters require my presence in Asuncion, and I will therefore not be able to have the privilege and satisfaction of sharing with you and other illustrious colleagues in the talks that will be the basis for more concrete and effective action in matters of interest to our international community.

Before I say anything else, I wish to express, in the name of the Paraguayan people and my own, the legitimate joy we share with Costa Rica over the celebration of the centennial of its democracy. Your country, Mr President, has always strived to realize the great ideals that bring prestige and fame to the civilized nations of our times. I extend our most effusive congratulations on the occasion your fraternal Central American nation celebrates today.

Freedom and democracy should generate in our America the conditions conducive to a new and wholesome international coexistence. To this effect, we must begin

by reasserting our unfaltering respect for human rights. In this regard, the first message my government sent to Congress was to ratify the Inter-American Convention on Human Rights, which was in fact signed in San Jose, the evocative and beautiful capital of Costa Rica.

During the libertarian movement of 2-3 February when it fell upon me to lead the Paraguayan Armed Forces, we forever renounced support for any kind of personalist, authoritarian, and discretional government, and we returned to the forms of an authentic state of law. It is my firm conviction that the Paraguayan people will be the permanent defenders of the democratic process to which all political, social, economic, and cultural sectors, without exception, are committed.

Before that lofty UN forum, I also expressed my concern over the abominable crime of drug trafficking.

Immediately after I assumed government, an intense campaign was initiated to destroy clandestine marijuana plantations within Paraguayan territory and to eradicate, with utmost energy, all drug-related trade.

My government will not allow Paraguayan territory to be used as a route or operation center for drug trafficking. Within our economic limitations, we will use all possible means to thwart and eradicate drug trafficking. We support, without reservation, the search for concerted action by our governments in order to present a common front against that diabolical scourge of all humankind.

Latin America, Mr President, is submerged in a profound economic crisis whose origin can be traced primarily to its foreign indebtedness. Concerted action among debtors, creditors, multilateral financial organizations, and rich countries must be initiated to seek solutions and find reasonably acceptable conditions and terms that are politically viable, so that the democratic process underway in America does not come to grief. This should perhaps be the major concern of all countries, rich and poor.

The foreign debt continues to be a drag on our continent's economic recovery, and the population in many countries is struggling for survival. Therefore, a political solution to the foreign debt problem is called for in the short term, and Paraguay is willing to add its voice to that of the countries in our America that clamor for a prompt way out of this desperate situation.

I also believe that the fear of a nuclear holocaust has led the so-called superpowers to choose the path of reason. We are talking in terms of reference, but the factor that will finally determine arms limitation will be either conviction or terror.

War is irrational. Only the peaceful way is worthy of humankind for the search for solutions to conflicts.

Latin America has always been known for its fertile valleys, its luxuriant forests, its large rivers. It therefore behooves us to maintain them for the millions of people who are now living on this continent and for those who in the future will inhabit these beautiful regions of the world. They will be able to find an environment conducive to wholesome life, free from pollution. We must strike a harmonious balance between industrial progress and life under incomparably clean skies and upon an ever more generous land.

Mr President, before closing this letter, I beg you to please convey to our colleagues attending the San Jose meeting my best wishes for success in the deliberations promoted by your illustrious government. It is my conviction that all of us together—living in peace, striving for the balanced development of our countries, consolidating freedom and democracy in our Continent—will fully discharge our obligation to honor the memory of our ancestors who liberated Latin America so that it might become the great American homeland of all those born in its soil.

Once again on this occasion, Costa Rica can be proud of having contributed, with its example and its word, to the great challenge of building a just, free, and peaceful world.

Please, accept, Mr President and esteemed friend, my highest consideration and affection while I remain waiting for the opportunity to meet you personally and to shake your friendly, cordial hand.

Major General Andres Rodriguez.

Congressmen Visit I Army Corps, Watch Maneuvers

PY2810164289 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 28 Oct 89 pp 8, 9

[Text] A group of congressmen visited the I Army Corps yesterday, a relatively unusual event. The legislators even watched some military maneuvers that included tanks. The senators and deputies characterized the event as very hopeful and labeled General Humberto Garcete's comment that "political problems must be solved by politicians" as very meaningful. Defense Minister General Angel Souto Hernandez and 1st Cavalry Division Commander Lino Oviedo were also present.

I Corp Commander General Humberto Garcete yesterday said that the Armed Forces are undergoing an institutionalization process. Garcete pointed out that military men no longer intervene in politics because they are in their barracks "training to become better professionals."

The legislators made their visit to the I Army Corps yesterday morning at the invitation of the Defense Ministry so that the people's representatives could get better acquainted with Armed Forces activities.

PLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party] Senator Domingo Laino wanted to know what concrete steps were being taken to institutionalize the Armed Forces. Gen Garcete answered that "we are in our barracks, and we are not getting involved in politics. We leave it to you politicians to solve the political problems. This is a very important step toward the institutionalization of the

Armed Forces. We could have entered the political arena long ago because, regretfully, many problems among political parties and their followers continue."

Garcete said there were no generals, colonels, and least of all retired officers participating in political meetings of any kind so that no one could say he had the support of this or that officer. Garcete added: "Our institution is fulfilling its duties throughout our territory. We believe we are on the path of institutionalizing ourselves because each one of us is fulfilling his duties within the law and for the fatherland."

Garcete said: We want to be better officers and for those who follow us to be even better. We are taking training courses to become more professional and to dedicate 100 percent of our time to our institutional duties. We are strictly following the orders of our Army commander." [quotation marks as published]

Senator Domingo Laino spoke with Gen Garcete to ask about concrete programs to institutionalize the Armed Forces. He said that as a Paraguayan and a reserve lieutenant he believes that "it will be very difficult to build a democracy as long as our Armed Forces are members of a political party."

Laino said: "Even though only a few months have passed since the 3 February coup, we have taken important steps toward establishing respect for our political institutions and opposition parties." Laino stressed the progress on guaranteeing respect for human rights, freedom of expression, and freedom of the press, but pointed out that he was concerned about what the Armed Forces "were not doing to achieve their institutionalization." Laino concluded by saying that "we appreciate our Armed Forces because we feel like we are part of them."

Government Creates New Monetary Council

PY2810233089 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 28 Oct 89 p 11

[Excerpt] Industry and Commerce Minister Antonio Zuccolillo and Agriculture and Livestock Minister Hernando Bertoni reported yesterday that the government has ordered the creation of a new entity to oversee the national financial system—the Monetary Council. This council will be comprised of representatives from the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry, the Industry and Commerce Ministry, the Finance Ministry, the Central Bank, and the Technical Planning Secretariat. This new council will be responsible for financial planning, the issuance of money, and credit allocation. The council will also be in charge of the foreign currency reserves, the payment of the foreign debt, the administration of new loans, and the control of foreign trade. [passage omitted]

Peru

Garcia Discusses Minister's Resignation, Economy

PY3010141689 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 30 Oct 89

[Question-and-answer session between President Alan Garcia and various unidentified reporters in front of Government House in Lima on 29 October—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Garcia] [Passage omitted] I think that the Cabinet must have two main requirements: first, confidence in democracy and in its renewal; and, second, confidence in Peru's economic ability to overcome its problems—problems that it is already overcoming.

[Reporter] Mr President, how does the government plan to solve the problem of shortages in the marketplaces?

[Garcia] This seems to be a controversial issue, taking into account the confidence I have in economic reactivation and in the solution of fiscal problems.

The food shortage is basically due to the administrative delay that 2 months ago prevented the National Bank from granting the necessary dollar credits and guarantees for ENCI [National Enterprise for Industrial Marketing], ECASA [Rice Marketing Enterprise, Inc.], and the Agriculture Ministry to import the food that is normally imported. This was the case for oil, sugar, and flour. We are paying for that delay.

Implementing a mistaken policy of austerity, 2 months ago the National Bank refused to grant letters of credit to the state-owned enterprises to import the food, and we have been inevitably paying for this delay for the past 2 or 3 weeks with long lines and shortages. The shortages and the lines are basically the result of that delay, but there is a solution. Chilean flour, Bolivian and Brazilian sugar, and Colombian rice have begun to arrive already. With quick commercial activity, the problem will be solved. There is also domestic production.

In some cases, however, the shortages are due to unrealistic prices. The loaf of bread is an example. Salaries and the social benefits of those who work to bake a loaf of bread are mainly responsible for the cost. It is not the price of wheat. There is now plenty of wheat in the country. Three ships have arrived. We have flour that has been imported directly. The bread shortages are not due to wheat shortages, but to the fact that bakeries prefer to bake other types of products. They no longer want to bake inexpensive bread for the people.

This is a task for the municipality and for the prefecture, but it also depends on the price paid to the bakers. The price cannot be unrealistic. No one works at a loss.

Corrections must me made concerning this product. Monitoring campaigns must be carried out so that the bread that the people need is baked.

In short, with rapid importation—and the imports have already begun to arrive— and with a policy of control and realistic prices for bread, I believe that we will overcome the problem of shortages within 5 or 6 days.

Now then, Agriculture Minister Juan Coronado Balmaceda is quite aware that despite all these explanations there is a political problem and the housewives are standing in long lines. The housewives get there and do not find any food. I could not explain to the housewives that there were no letters of credit from the National Bank because a bank employee made a mistake. I could not explain to them that a ship was delayed because of a strike by the ENAPU [National Ports Enterprise]. These are unimportant explanations. This is a tough and difficult policy, but it often requires many sacrifices.

Juan Coronado Balmaceda tendered his resignation this morning. Coronado Balmaceda has not only given us advice but has also made very valuable contributions. He is aware, however, that under these circumstances the existing shortages put him in a very difficult situation, and he has tendered his resignation.

I have consulted Prime Minister Guillermo Larco Cox, and we have agreed to accept the resignation of our comrade, Juan Coronado Balmaceda. His resignation, of course, does not diminish his professional qualities or his dedication to APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] work. His resignation must be understood as a political gesture. There are lines. There is discontent. The housewives are asking themselves: If things are running smoothly and there are as many reserves as the president claims and the state is beginning to have more income, why then are there sugar, noodle, and bread shortages?

We must give a reply. Yet we should also give a political answer. I hail the gesture of Minister Juan Coronado Balmaceda. We have accepted his resignation, and we will immediately designate Mr Isaac Roberto Angeles, who held the post of deputy agriculture minister for a long time, as the new agriculture minister. With much experience at the Agriculture Ministry, where he has built a professional career, Mr Angeles has become proficient in all agricultural matters. This will enable him to continue with the policy that has already been initiated, to resolve problems, and to continue to implement the solutions that have already been devised.

This is our conclusion. It is really regrettable, but we have accepted the resignation of Companero Coronado Balmaceda, who will be replaced by Isaac Roberto Angeles.

[Reporter] Mr President, will the new agriculture minister be sworn in tomorrow?

[Garcia] I think the details must be decided by the prime minister, but I am sure that since a decision has already been made, Mr Angeles will be sworn in early tomorrow so that he may immediately begin discharging his duties.

[Reporter] Mr President, may I ask a cynical question?

[Garcia] Sure; you usually ask cynical questions.

[Reporter] Mr President, this resignation may have been caused by displeasure on the part of the electoral campaign team that is promoting Mercedes Cabanillas' candidacy for the municipal elections. Cabanillas has had problems because of the people having to wait in long lines for basic staples. Could this be the reason for Balmaceda's resignation?

[Garcia] That is a cynical question—the type of question you usually ask. Electoral campaign team members, or I should say we, are not an exception. Society as a whole is not content, and I, in my capacity as president, should be aware of that feeling. One does not have to be an APRA member or a Mercedes Cabanillas to realize that there is sugar and oil shortage. Many explanations can be given. However, the situation must be resolved, and the country should be given a political answer. I am not taking action just because my fellow APRA party members are not happy, but because the country is not happy, and because political decisions must be made at the appropriate time, despite the pain they cause to fellow party members who are very dear to us.

[Reporter] What is the status of the bill on the designation of the Supreme Court president, which was submitted to the executive branch for approval or rejection?

[Garcia] The bill was rejected. The bill stated that the presidents of the Supreme Court and of higher courts should be designated in strict compliance with seniority. I like democracy, and just as I like freedom of the press—even if at times it is abused—and the participation of the people, I also want participation in the institutions. Seniority does not necessarily mean proficiency. I do not believe we should impose a standard of measurement with which the members of an institution should designate who will direct and manage them. The most senior official is not necessarily the best manager. The bill stated that the most senior justice should preside over annually...[changes thought] For example, in the Lima Superior Court, which has 60 members, at least one member will have to wait 60 years for his designation. He would have to be an old person. His right to be president will be restricted. I do not agree with that. I believe in democracy; I believe in the people's capacity to choose. That is why we will hold municipal and regional elections, despite the fact that you, reporters, have not attached the appropriate significance to them. Regional elections are more important than municipal elections because they will change the Peruvian political and economic structure. We will hold presidential elections on 8 April. Those are the features of democracy: elections, freedom of expression, permanent renewal. That is why the bill was vetoed.

[Reporter] Mr President, concerning security measures, opposition sectors have said that all efforts should be made to guarantee the security of the candidates, of the people, and of all who will participate in the elections. What can you tell us about this?

[Garcia] Look, it is very easy to be an armchair general. It is very easy to formulate a strategy from the other side of the Pacific Ocean. That is easy. However, I would like to see the reaction that those who are formulating such strategies would have if they had to do it from the presidential chair.

There are many problems to be solved in Peru. You need dollars to solve shortages. You need intis for financing agricultural production. You need intis for improving the salaries earned by public servants, so that they may increase their consumption. You need more policemen to cope with the insecurity caused by the Shining Path, which is attacking us and murdering us. But policemen demand higher salaries, and the opposition wants you to double the number of policemen and, at the same time, to build all the necessary public works and to increase public servant salaries. Which one shall we choose as the first problem"

There are many problems, and all of them should be properly considered. One cannot concentrate on a single problem. If they say that the security of the 40,000 candidates must be preserved ...[changes thought] I believe that all the political parties, all the institutions, and all the citizens—if we are democrats—share this responsibility. We have 80,000 policemen. How will we protect 40,000 candidates? An attack has been staged against the mayor of (Amarilis), a small town in Huanuco, and this incident has been used to support the claim that insecurity prevails. How can we raise 200,000 or 300,000 civil guards to provide personal protection for each individual candidate? What will be the cost of tripling the number of civil guards and policemen? What will be the cost of doubling their salaries, to make them feel satisfied and willing to commit themselves to their job?

We have many problems that cannot be solved through isolated actions. All problems must be considered from an all-encompassing viewpoint, while we recognize that we cannot simultaneously solve them all. Problems should be gradually resolved, on a case-by-case basis, to maintain the institutions. What will happen if we decide to double the number of policemen and also double their salaries? We would have no money for building projects, for buying rice and sugar—which housewives now need—for increasing public servant salaries, and for maintaining those privileged officials and nonofficials who are living on state salaries. We would have no money for continuing with the public works that the state must build to solve irrigation problems and to give jobs to many people.

Consequently, the situation is very complex. Yet we should not pessimistically declare that insecurity prevails. What do they mean by that? Don't we have the Armed Forces? Don't we have the police? Some candidates have adopted this attitude of permanent and repeated disrespect for the Armed Forces.

I do believe, however, that there is an antisubversive strategy, and that had there been none, the situation would have been much worse. We should also consider this side of the question. It is true that the strategy is not enough, but we should also honestly wonder what would happen if we were not doing what we are now.

The other day I was told in Ayacucho that 200 candidates have resigned all over Peru, and I replied: Yes, 200 have resigned; but 40,000 candidates are still running. Therefore, most are still there. We should lose neither our equanimity nor our calm nor our optimism. I can tell you that despite all the problems, I have shown that I have lost neither calm nor optimism, which are the last things that a Peruvian should lose. [passage omitted]

Interior Minister Comments on 'Internal War'

PY3010015989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0321 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Lima, 28 Oct (EFE)—Interior Minister Agustin Mantilla today said that Peru is fighting an internal war against terrorism. Mantilla stressed that the problem does not have a short-term solution and that this war is not the responsibility of only the Peruvian police, but of all Peruvians. In a 12-minute message to the nation, the interior minister said the struggle against "the subversive criminals is the responsibility of all Peruvians."

Mantilla made a "partial" account of police operations against subversion over the past 5 months, giving details of what he considered successful operations and admitting, but no elaborating on, some failures. Mantilla said that police in Lima had destroyed 12 Shining Path terrorist cells and arrested 78 subversives. Another five subversives were killed in clashes, and 9 have been indentified and are being sought.

Mantilla also said that police in northern Peru destroyed five subversive cells, arrested 22 subversives, killed 5 terrorists in clashes, and identified 37 more for whom the court has issued arrest warrants. The interior minister also noted that police in central Peru destroyed nine Shining Path cells, arrested 34 subversives, killed 4 terrorists in clashes, and identified 26 individuals who are being sought. Police in the south destroyed three Shining Path cells, arrested 28 terrorists, killed 3 in clashes, and identified 4 who are being sought.

Regarding the Guevarist Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA], Mantilla said that police had destroyed 6 terrorist cells throughout the country, arrested 41 terrorists, killed 6 in clashes, and that 19 are being sought.

The Shining Path and MRTA members have been charged with the multiple killings of policemen, members of the Armed Forces, civilian authorities, and civilians. The subversives have also been charged with attacks against power towers and public and private buildings, looting, blackmail, and theft.

State of Emergency Extended in 8 Departments

PY3010010989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2111 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Lima, 29 Oct (EFE)—It was officially reported in Lima today that the Peruvian Army will continue to exert political-military control over eight departments in the central Andean area and in a province in the jungle region in view of a 60-day extension of the state of emergency in those areas.

A government source denied that this will affect the upcoming 12 Novenber elections in these departments. The state of emergency provides for the suspension of some constitutional guarantees, including the right to hold public rallies and the right not to be arrested without a warrant. It also establishes a curfew.

According to an executive decree signed by President Garcia, the state of emergency will be extended for 60 days in the Departments of Ayacucho, Apurimac, Huancavelica, Junin, and Pasco in the central Andean region. The state of emergency is also extended in San Martin, Huanuco, and Ucayali Departments and in Ucayali Province, which is in Loreto Department in the Amazon jungle.

According to an Interior Ministry source, the state of emergency is also in force in Lima and in the Callao port area. This means that about 60 percent of Peru's territory and 50 percent of its population is under a state of emergency.

The extension of the state of emergency in Ayacucho, located 576 km southeast of Lima, was issued a few hours after it was learned that 15 peasants were massacred in a district in Huanta Province, which borders Ayacucho.

The police reported that a column of terrorists wearing commando-type military uniforms raided the town of Ipabamba, gathered the town settlers in a plaza, and massacred them.

It has also been reported that on the night of 28 October soldiers fired at a station wagon that ignored the guards' orders to stop. Three people in the station wagon were reportedly killed.

Shining Path Kills Judge, Mayoral Candidate

PY2810170189 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0433 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Lima, 27 Oct (EFE)—It was reported today that four people, among them a candidate for mayor and a judge, have been killed by a Shining Path column of about 40 terrorists. The incident occurred in Puno Department in southeastern Peru.

Police sources have reported from Ayacucho, located 575 km southeast of Lima, that a car bomb exploded today a few meters from a precinct police station. The explosion injured three passersby. The sources added that two bombs were thrown at another police building, causing damage.

The Shining Path attack occurred last night in Huatasani, a town near Lake Titicaca, about 100 km north of Puno, the departmental capital, 1,315 km southeast of Lima. The radio station "Radioprogramas del Peru" reported that Sergio Mamani, a candidate for mayor in the upcoming 12 November elections from the Marxist parties' United Left coalition, was killed in the attack along with Judge Cruz Florez.

The same source reported that the other two casualties were Timoteo Machaca, chief of the Civil Registry Department, and Fortunato Mamani, a worker from a nearby ranch, and that the terrorists damaged several public buildings.

The Ayacucho police have reported that the Shining Path was aiming the car bomb at the precinct station, but the car turned and crashed into an Education Ministry office next to the police building. The police station is about 300 meters from the main square.

In addition to injuring three passersby, the car bomb explosion destroyed the door to the Education Ministry office and broke windows in the precinct building and nearby houses. The home-made bombs that were thrown at another police building in the downtown area only caused minor damage.

A Lima television correspondent has reported that Felipe Obregon, the mayor of Amarilis, a town in Huanuco Department in the Peruvian central mountain range, was wounded today by members of an alleged Shining Path "annihilation squad." The Shining Path is continuing its weeks-long terrorist escalation to cause a boycott of the 12 November municipal elections.

The "Shining Path" has killed 34 mayors so far this year; over 300 people have been victims of political violence in October alone.

Drug Trafficker Extradited From Colombia

PY3010022289 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0439 GMT 29 Oct 89

[Text] Lima, 28 Oct (EFE)—Peruvian drug trafficker Emilio Reynoso Aguilar, alias "Retaco I," arrived in Lima today under strict police security. Reynoso was extradited from Colombia to be tried here on charges of murder, kidnapping, drug trafficking, robbery, and other crimes.

"Retaco I" is linked to Colombia's Medellin Cartel. He was handed over to Peruvian police officers who had traveled to Colombia to bring him to Lima, where he is under indictment by nine different courts.

Reynoso is known in Lima as "the escape king" because he has escaped from Peruvian jails a number of times disguised as a woman or a police officer. Reynoso

escaped from the Justice Palace after taking the police officer guarding him hostage.

"Retaco I's" brothers have similar aliases; they are called Retaco II, III, and IV. All of them have accounts to settle with the courts, but only one of them is currently in jail.

"Retaco I" left Peru in 1984 to continue his criminal career in other countries. He finally ended up in Colombia, where he worked with drug traffickers until his arrest. Reynoso is considered very dangerous. The problem for the Peruvian police will now be to keep "the escape king" in jail.

Lima To Receive 500 Buses in Deal With PRC

PY2810131189 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Excerpt] The 500 Chinese buses obtained through a barter agreement with the PRC will begin arriving in the country in the next few months as part of the transportation modernization program. Lima Mayor Jorge del Castillo held a news conference to give details of the deal.

The 500 buses were christened with the nickname (Tusang); total delivery is scheduled to be completed in 12 months. They will be incorporated into Lima's bus fleet. After the ceremony in which the agreement was signed, Lima Mayor Jorge del Castillo reported that the buses will be paid for over 3 years with traditional and nontraditional products in a 75 to 25 percent ratio. The mayor said that the final cost will be twice as much as the $46.9 million cash price of the buses. [passage omitted]

Venezuela

Perez on Panama, Central American Borders

PA2810042289 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0025 GMT 28 Oct 89

[Text] Caracas, 27 Oct (EFE)—The Venezuelan Army will participate in the observers commission to guarantee peace along the border between Nicaragua and Honduras, Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez announced today before leaving for San Jose to attend the "summit" of American heads of state. "The Venezuelan Army will participate in a observers commission to guarantee that Honduras' borders are not used again for the war that absurdly devastated the Nicaraguan people in the past," Perez noted.

The president said that a commission of the Venezuelan Supreme Electoral Council works daily with Nicaragua's Supreme Electoral Council [CSE], the organization that will supervise the presidential elections in Nicaragua, scheduled for 25 February 1990.

"As part of that help," the president noted, "Venezuela is going to spend money and will give the CSE 2 million liters of gasoline to transport government and opposition supporters to the polls."

Perez added his country is committed to the struggle Colombia, Peru, and Bolivia are waging against drug trafficking "because it also poses a threat to Venezuela and the Caribbean islands."

"We need an international agreement against drugs since this crime without borders must also be fought without borders," he indicated.

Regarding the Panamanian crisis, the Venezuelan president said "compliance of the Torrijos-Carter treaties on the Panama Canal entails not just a sentimental but a contractual commitment for Latin America because they were signed with the endorsement of all the Latin American countries."

"We, along with dictators and others, gathered at the OAS to sign and endorse the canal treaties, and noncompliance with that commitment hurts each and every one of us; we cannot accept it," he said.

On the topic of Panama's current situation, the president said that "noncompliance with the treaties is one thing, but our duty and right to strive for the restoration in Panama of the people's right to elect their represenatives and the right to democracy is another thing."

Soldiers Killed Along Colombian Border

PA2710161589 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1409 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Caracas, 27 Oct (DPA) — The attack in which five Venezuelan soldiers were killed at the border with Colombia has been blamed, according to some reports, on Colombian guerrillas and drug trafficking gangs operating in Colombia.

Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez blamed Colombian drug trafficking gangs for the attack—in which five guards were killed—perpetrated on 26 October in the border State of Apure against a National Guard patrol in the area.

Referring last night to the drug trafficking gangs, Perez said this is "a provocation for Venezuela because they are trying to extend their claws to our country."

However, Jorge Romero, governor of the border state of Tachira, which borders the state of Apure, maintained this was an "attack with very powerful explosives" perpetrated by "members of the Colombian guerrillas, presumably from the Army of National Liberation Army, against a National Guard jeep."

According to Romero, it has been determined during the preliminary investigations that the explosives that killed the five soldiers were buried in a road near Cutufi and set off by remote control as the military vehicle passed by.

Last night, the Defense Ministry ordered the arrest of five alleged Colombian guerrillas, whom it blamed for the attack. However, the attackers reportedly crossed the border into Colombia.

Violent Student Disturbances Erupt in Merida

PA2810024089 Paris AFP in Spanish 2357 GMT 27 Oct 89

[Text] Merida, Venezuela, 27 Oct (AFP)—The local news agency INNAC reported that today's violent student disturbances left 26 policemen wounded in Merida, in the middle of the southwestern Andes, 600 km to the southeast of Caracas.

The disturbances were set off by the arrest of a group of students believed to have looted trucks carrying food.

State Police Commander Colonel Luis Bastardo reported that most of the policemen were injured by stones.

The students concentrated in the centrally located Febres-Cordero Avenue where they set up road blocks and clashed with authorities who in turn fired birdshot and tear gas to disperse them.

INNAC reported 17 were detained, including 6 minors.

Activities in Merida, a tourist city, center largely around the Andes University (ULA), the largest in the country's southwest.

Finance Minister Presents 1990 Budget

PA2610042489 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 10 Oct 89 pp A1, D15

[Text] Venezuelan Finance Minister Eglee Iturbe de Blanco presented the 1990 budget to the Congress on 9 October. The budget of 419.338 billion bolivares, is higher than this year's 327.166 billion budget by 92.172 billion, or 28.2 percent.

The minister said that, of the estimated 1990 fiscal revenue, 393.703 billion, or 93.9 percent of the total, represents regular income, while 25.635 billion, or 6.1 percent, is miscellaneous income.

She also said that the fiscal revenue increase estimated for this year is due primarily to the effect of the differential exchange rate that occurs when the oil industry's fiscal participation is computed. In next year's budget, this participation is being computed at the rate of 38 bolivares to the U.S. dollar, while an average rate of 33.15 bolivares to the U.S. dollar was used for 1989. Oil revenue has been estimated at 257.353 billion bolivars, she concluded.